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THE shock which has come to the Association on the eve of the Conference at which Dr. Linderfelt was to preside as the honored President of the Association, is one such as the Association has never felt before and one which is the greater because of the character which Dr. Linderfelt had held in the minds and affections of every member of the Association who had come into contact with him. Probably if the members of the Association had been asked to name those who were most surely honest amongst their numbers or who were least likely to show any taint of dishonesty, Dr. Linderfelt's name would have been the first to spring to the lips of every one. That, holding the position which he had so long held in the library profession and in the community in which he has lived an honored life, he should, nevertheless, have succumbed to a temptation which seems so small and so inadequate to overcome such a man, is one of the saddest commentaries on the possible weakness of human nature. The resignation of Dr. Linderfelt was promptly presented and accepted by the committee previous to the meeting of the Association, but the sad event casts a shadow over the Conference which even its entire success otherwise will scarcely dissipate.

THE wretched news startled and saddened the whole library world. At first we could not believe it, both the wrong and the folly were so contrary to all we knew of the man whom we had chosen to be President of our Association. But the report was confirmed, and another was added to the list of inexplicable falls. By that fall we are all lowered. In his shame we are all ashamed. Nothing like it has ever occurred before. The pecuniary honor of a librarian, like that of an army officer, has always been above reproach. There was a professional feeling to which any disloyalty toward one's library seemed impossible. And, so far as we know, no instance of dishonesty was on record. We will not say that librarians felt proud of this, for they hardly thought of it. Pride would imply that honesty required an effort, but to a real librarian it was most natural, a simple necessity, a thing which

went of itself, which could be taken for granted. We have been undeceived. As recent events have shown that some army men are not above fraud, now this most melancholy occurrence will teach us all to be self-distrustful and to keep always on guard against temptation.

ONE lesson of this sad affair should not be lost upon librarians and trustees, the desirability for their own security, as well as for that of the interests committed to them, of obtaining frequent accountings and audits by absolutely unprejudiced accountants from without the library administration. When such a man as Dr. Linderfelt can be betrayed into giving way to a temptation of this sort, it seems almost as though none of us could be safe; and certainly it is well that such temptations should be guarded against in every possible way.

WE have received in the last few weeks replies to two reviews which have recently appeared in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, each contributed by the compiler of the book reviewed. The JOURNAL is always ready and indeed glad to correct or take back any erroneous statement or statements which it is responsible for. And though our reviews are generally initialled so as to make them the personal view of each writer, yet none are published which do not represent the opinion of the JOURNAL, and for which we accept the fullest responsibility. We have considered carefully the two replies, and cannot see that they are adequate enough to print in the JOURNAL. To claim that one is aware of a certain imperfection at the time of preparing does not lessen the misleading quality of such work, unless the omission is mentioned, so that others may not be misled. And to claim that our "critic, at least, cannot make the simplest criticism without error," does not in any way lessen the faults pointed out in the review in question. Nor was it "caution" which induced the use of only initials to that review, but a mere following of an established custom, which in this case were the initials of one so well known in library circles as to make a suspicion of an attempted concealment of identity absurd.

THE death of Dr. Moore, recorded in this issue, ends the career of one widely known in library and scholarly circles. That it is a loss to human knowledge no one will question. He was probably the best authority on certain lines of books in this country, if not in the world. And his long library service in the New York Historical Society and Lenox Libraries gave him advantages of time and material which few of our more busy library laborers can realize. It is not surprising, therefore, that the tractates which have come from his pen show careful research and accurate knowledge. They will undoubtedly retain permanent value among the books of their class long after his name is known in library circles. In brief, as a librarian, Dr. Moore was a signal failure.

THE reason of this is perfectly obvious. Dr. Moore regarded books and knowledge as personal properties. A bibliographer who has made one of our most complete bibliographies one day mentioned to the Doctor, in the latter's study, that for years he had been looking for a certain pamphlet. The Doctor opened his desk, pulled out the pamphlet in question, held it up for the man to see, and returned it to his desk. This was his attitude towards all investigators. A fact or a book was not to be given to whoever needed it, but was to be jealously guarded, against the possible day when he should wish to use it himself. In the two libraries in which he passed the major part of his life, a careful guardianship was no doubt necessary, but under his charge this was carried to an extreme most irritating to all who wished to use them, and has saddled the two institutions with an unpopularity which has lost them money and books, and made them the butt of laughter and criticism. Undoubtedly both these institutions are controlled by conservative trustees; but to neutralize this force is one of the most essential of a librarian's duties. And Dr. Moore not merely failed to do this, but on the contrary was responsible for increasing and encouraging this tendency.

Communications.

JAMES WHITCOMB RILEY'S "SKETCHES IN PROSE."

INDIANAPOLIS, April 14, 1892.

OUR attention has just been called to a communication in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, 16: 357, which is unjust and misleading.

"Sketches in prose," by James Whitcomb Riley, lately brought out by the Bowen-Merrill Co., of Indianapolis, is identical in contents with

'The boss girl, and other sketches,' published by the same house in 1886. Besides the change of general title, there has been a change made in the title of the leading story, then called 'The boss girl,' now appearing as 'Jamesy.' Otherwise, there is no difference between the two books.

"I have discovered the swindle after being victimized by it. If I sound a note of warning to my neighbors, it may possibly be timely with some of them.

"Hereafter I shall buy Mr. Riley's books and Bowen-Merrill Co.'s publications very cautiously and with reluctance. J. N. LARNED."

The first edition of "The boss girl" was called "Character sketches," but later, when the book was put out in cheap paper form, it went under the title of "The boss girl, a Christmas story, and other sketches." No edition of "The boss girl" was made after 1886, and it was for several years entirely out of print. Having repeated calls for it we concluded to reissue, and did so in February, 1891, in uniform style with the other books, under title of "Sketches in prose and occasional verses." We have never advertised both books at the same time, or that "Sketches" was a new book. On the contrary, in our enclosed trade list and descriptive circular of Mr. Riley's books it is distinctly stated in both that "The boss girl" and "Sketches" are the same book, and we have taken great pains to state to dealers who have bought the books of us that they were the same, with a change of title of book and first piece. If Mr. Larned was "victimized" it was through no fault of ours, for we have made a special effort to prevent any patron from being misled, but rather it was a lack of vigilance on his part to consult our list of Mr. Riley's books. We trust you will give this matter as much publicity as you have given his complaint.

We will refund Mr. Larned the price paid if he feels so greatly outraged, or exchange for some other book.

Yours truly,
THE BOWEN-MERRILL CO.

April 20.

On the above communication I will simply remark:

1. If the Bowen-Merrill Company, when it gathers its energies for another "special effort to prevent any patron from being misled" by a change in the title of one of its books, will simply set forth the fact of such change on the title-page of the book itself, the "effort" will be probably less exhausting and pretty certainly more successful.

2. My "vigilance" in certain duties of library guardianship is tutored by my experience. Until this experience taught me, I did not know that the publications of the Bowen-Merrill Company had their place among the objects of it.

J. N. L.

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SOME NOTES ON CO-OPERATIVE OR LABOR-SAVING METHODS OF PRINTING LIBRARY CATALOGS.—II.

BY A. GROWOLL.

PREVIOUS to 1885 the Office of The Publishers' Weekly had under consideration several suggestions for a system of co-operative cataloging, only one of which, however, was actually tested practically. This was when in 1879 an attempt was made to utilize the valuable bibliographical material contained in *The Publishers' weekly* by issuing monthly "The Title-Slip Registry," which at the end of that year was also issued as an Annual under the title of "The Books of 1879." In this publication, which was printed on one side only on thin white paper, so that the titles might be cut out and mounted on card or in book catalogs, there were given the full titles of all new books published during the year in this country or imported in editions (as recorded in the Weekly Record of *The Publishers' weekly*), and, for the more important books, descriptive notes and library headings (the latter by Messrs. C. A. Cutter and Melvil Dewey). Besides this was given for every month's instalment a classified summary, in one alphabet, indexing all the books represented according to subject. Whether it was owing to the fact that fifty-two alphabets had to be consulted, or that the idea was premature, only a few copies of the "Title-Slip Registry" were subscribed for, and there seemed to be so little interest in the enterprise that it was abandoned after the first year's trial. In 1882 the idea was again tested in a modified form by printing, as was done in the "Title-Slip Registry," the fifty-two weeks' lists from *The Publishers' weekly*, but prefacing them with a full index (in one alphabet), by author, title, and subject, which was substituted for the short-title list that had before been prefixed to the "Publishers' Trade List Annual."

In the fall of 1885 the Office of The Publishers' Weekly was encouraged to test a new process which had come under its notice for reproducing printed matter at an insignificant cost. About that time a firm in New York had in hand the reproduction of an important publication by a new process, and was turning out such satisfactory work in the reproduction of letter-press and illustrations, that the writer undertook personally the practical work of making an attempt to preserve in satisfactory shape, in the form of a yearly catalogue, and in one alphabet, the material contained in the Weekly Record of *The Publishers' weekly*.

As a preliminary, I prepared a few sample pages, mounted on stiff manilla paper, and sub-

mitted them to this company for trial. The result was satisfactory enough to warrant the attempt, and so it was decided to make up the "Annual Catalogue" for 1886. Finding that paper, however stiff, was unfit to be used as a "mount," I had strong white cardboard cut up into sheets about an inch larger all around than the printed page of the catalog itself was to be. These sheets were ruled on a printing press in faint blue lines marking the exact limits of the page and columns, thus:

The faint lines served as guides for the eye as well as for the size and contents of the page. I had two sets of *The Publishers' weekly* from which to take the material. To make sure that none of the matter should be duplicated, I crossed out lightly with a blue pencil the left-



hand pages of one set and the right-hand pages of the other. Working on one page at a time, I placed the leaf on a pad of paper to prevent my gauge or rule—a square-edged brass rule—from slipping, and first with a sharp, ordinary pen-knife I cut the material close to the type in column strips, and then separated the titles. Care was taken in every case to do the work neatly and to cut straight, so that each slip might at once be ready for mounting. To cut up fifty-two issues, aggregating about 5000 titles, took about thirty six hours, or a little over an hour for 130 titles.

Alphabetizing was slower work, and occupied probably one hundred and thirty hours. Handling the material was easier than it might appear. Of course, all this work required a deft hand, and a sure one, as the material would not stand very much handling. To keep each division of the various letters of the alphabet in place after it had been alphabetized, I cut strips of ordinary straw-board the width of the column, a trifle longer than the largest title in the division, and strapped a rubber band on both ends. Next came the crucial task of mounting the titles—the one on which the success of the whole work depended.

To prevent discoloration or the striking through of the material used in pasting up the titles, it was

necessary to use a simple paste made of flour and water, dissolving the flour with cold water and boiling it until it reached a thin, glue-like consistency. A little at a time was put on the back of the left hand, and, using the index-finger of the right hand instead of a brush, just the slightest portion of paste was rubbed along the back of the title, which was then put in proper position on the page. This left the corners free, but as the page was put under glass when photographed this did not matter.

The arrangement of the titles on the page was a perfectly natural one—that is, just as though the page were made up in type. It was not necessary to spread out titles to fill the exact space, for when I came to a point where it was necessary to cut a title or note into two pieces, or to take only two or three nonpareil lines off and transfer them to the next column, there was no difficulty in the way.

The reproducing process was by means of photography. The page or sheet to be reproduced was clamped to a board in front of a camera and a photograph of it taken. The negative was then developed and the transparent film bearing the image, after being stripped from the glass and reversed, was placed, together with a sheet of prepared gelatine (gelatine impregnated with bichromate of potash), in a photographer's frame and exposed to the sunlight. The gelatine sheet was then taken in hand. All that was white in the original, by appearing black in the negative, prevented the light from touching those portions of the gelatine; while all that was black in the original, appearing white in the negative, permitted the light to strike through to the gelatine, and by its action rendered the portions that it touched insoluble. The portions of the gelatine not affected by the light were easily washed out, leaving the letters in bold relief. The plates, after being thoroughly dried, were trimmed and blocked to type height. A proof was then taken by the aid of which any defects that might exist were located, whereupon the graver was used to render the block comparatively perfect.

At least so it ought to have been. Judging by the work in the "Annual Catalogue" for 1886, one does not get that impression. But to explain the shortcomings of that volume, it must be remembered (1) that no special pains were taken to have good impressions of the printed copy; (2) that *The Publishers' weekly* in that year was printed in two different offices, the one using old and worn type with one kind of face, the other a new, clean-cut type of another foundry, causing a diversity in the looks of the printed page. This might have been the case even if the greatest

care had been taken in applying the process, which however was not done, owing to a misunderstanding between the photographer and the printer, who did not properly facilitate each other's work. This we did not discover until the work was completed and too long delayed to enable us to make correction.

We found the actual cost of making the plates by this process to be about one-fourth of the price we usually paid for the composition of this class of matter; but the difficulties encountered in printing from the gelatine plates made the presswork abnormally high, so that the cost of production altogether may be figured at something over half the regular price of setting the matter anew.

Not altogether satisfied with the results of this first experiment, the office next gave attention to electrotyping each title separately, or rather casting in one plate three or four pages of the "Weekly Record" from *The Publishers' weekly* and then cutting titles apart. This, of course, was done by the foundryman, who also drilled small holes enough into each title, through which it might be nailed into the block. In view of the uncertainty as to the success of the enterprise, no special conveniences were provided—drawers, for instance, to hold the plates, so that they might be alphabetized from week to week as they were delivered from the foundry (as was originally planned), but each alphabet was piled by itself on a small set of shelves. When the year was complete we provided enough blocks of the wood used by electrotypers in mounting plates, cut to the size of a single column of the catalogue. Next came the work of alphabetizing the metal titles which I undertook personally—comparatively an easy task for one who had twelve years' experience in a printing office, and after that the task of nailing the titles to the blocks. I had watched electrotypes mounted hundreds of times; I am rather handy with my hands, and in the use of tools, if I do say it myself; I had all the apparatus necessary—a stone block, the proper kind of nails, punches of several sizes to drive the nails home with, or to punch additional holes in the metal where it had been overlooked by the foundryman—and he did overlook it oftener than I found agreeable—a metal plane, the necessary blocks—in short everything needful from a mechanical point of view. I took hold of the work with the greatest enthusiasm; I drove home the last nail in the last title with just a trifle less enthusiasm than I did the first one in the first title. To be plain, I went in a roaring lion; I came out a "wet hen."

I will attempt to give the reason why. In

thinking out this plan I deluded myself with the notion that the foundryman would trim and finish each title true and square, so that all that would be necessary for me to do would be to make certain that the title at the top of the column was put on straight, and the rest could then be lined to this and so come out true to the bottom. The spreading out or shortening of the titles did not seem so formidable. Explicit word had been given in the foundry, and injunctions were given from time to time that the titles should be neatly and uniformly trimmed and made true in every particular, and the assurance was had that all was "all right." I was trustful up to that time, but now when I receive, in reply to an inquiry as to how certain things are getting along, the message "all right," I gird my loins and go forth to make certain that it is not "all wrong." I found directly I had started that things were not quite all right. Some of the metal titles had been trimmed close to the type, while many more had irregular margins top or bottom, or both. For a zigzag job there could have been no more suitable collection. The pieces of cut-glass that form the "business end" of a kaleidoscope were regularity, compared with these titles. And so there was nothing left for me but to set to work myself to trim the bulk of them—about three thousand titles—into shape. To onlookers, shaving metal by hand-power may be a simple and not quite uninteresting matter; but to an operator unused for some time to manual labor, shovelling sand would have seemed recreation compared to it. Then I found quite frequently that the last title on a column would overrun just four lines of nonpareil. To take the whole title off would make the column short say from half an inch to an inch. To spread the remaining titles in the column would look bad, to leave a blank at the foot of the column would look worse. In this dilemma I cut the overrunning lines apart—a very troublesome and risky performance, as the least miscalculation might have ruined part or the whole of the title, necessitating the resetting and electrotyping of the title so maltreated. I had unusual luck in this operation, all but one in more than fifty such cases having proved successful.

The next year we repeated this process, thinking to turn to use the experience gained during the first trial. But the difficulties were still too many to encourage us in continuing the process.

Besides, the process did not seem to lead to anything. We nailed the titles on column blocks. These were made up into pages by placing two blocks side by side, dividing them

with proper space and setting in type the headings and folios. Then the pages were imposed and locked up and printed as ordinary type forms. As the plates were made at fifty-two different times during the year, it was natural that the thickness, or more properly, the height of the titles varied slightly. Had all the plates of the same height come together this matter would not have been noticed; but as the plates of fifty-two various thicknesses occurred on every page, their difference became painfully noticeable to the printer, causing extra work in properly overlaying the pages. Extra work, of course, means extra pay; and so we estimated that, with extra help in nailing up the pages, the net saving in production was probably less than 25 per cent. of the cost of setting the matter in type. Besides, the titles, after they were once used, could not be employed again, because in taking them off the blocks many would have been broken or so badly mutilated that they would have been of no use.

It will be noticed that no mention has been made of contrivances by which unmounted electrotypes could be fastened on printing blocks. We considered several such, but they did not promise well. The main difficulty, especially in catalogue work, with page blocks with side clamp arrangements is to space a column or page so that the clamps could get an even and sufficient hold to keep all the pieces in place during the operation of printing, and to enable them to resist the tremendous suction-power of the printing rollers.

A "ready-made" plate matter company in Chicago (The Chicago Stereotype Co., 87 Fifth Ave., Chicago) employs a method that seems to overcome this difficulty in a measure. This company casts its type matter a little over an eighth of an inch in thickness, running a groove down both edges of the plate thus.



This plate matter is set on metal blocks about as high as the wood blocks used in mounting electrotypes. The column rule has a small flange on both sides to fit the grooves in the plate, and a similar rule, flanged on one side only, is supplied to set against the outside of the pages. They also cast leads or blank spaces of various sizes, grooved like the type matter, to be used in spacing and adjusting the columns to a proper length. When made up, the pages are imposed and locked up in forms as type matter ordinarily is. Practical as this process appears, it seemed to us that the cost of grooving the plates and handling the matter would make its use as expensive almost as using the type in catalogue work.

The saving on the process employed by us was so insignificant, and the work in getting the catalogue up so laborious, and unlikely to be undertaken by other cataloguers, that it was decided to give the first process another trial. Accordingly, word was given in time to print *The Publishers' weekly* list of books on better paper, and on one side of the sheet only. On making arrangements with the firm who made a specialty of that kind of work, it was learned that they had found printing from the gelatine plates unsatisfactory, and therefore now made electrotype plates from them. This increased the cost over 30 per cent., and when the expense of setting the headlines in type,* casting and soldering them to the pages was added, the total cost was considerably higher than when the process was first employed. Still, the saving was large enough to make it an object. But a serious difficulty finally obliged us to abandon it after another trial of two years. The difficulty was in the weather. As this work had to be turned out in January, when sunless days are the rule, the catalogue was delayed several months, making it impossible to publish it earlier than the middle or near the end of March. It is true that the use of electric light would, in part, have overcome this difficulty of cloudy weather, but work by this process would have been too expensive, and so could not be considered. As the value of the catalogue depended upon prompt issue, it proved a disappointment to subscribers every year and deterred others from subscribing to it altogether.

So we finally made an arrangement with our printer to keep the whole list in type. While there is still a slight saving, it is so insignificant that it amounts to nearly the same as though the matter were set anew.

The experiments described, therefore, as far as their practical value to the librarian is concerned, might be written down as ways how not to do it. The photographic process has value in small work, say in getting up a catalogue already printed to which it is desired to make additions. If the additions be set in type and careful proof taken of the matter, it would be comparatively easy work to cut up the old printed catalogue and paste it with the new matter inserted in its proper place. The reproduction of such pages

* It should be stated that the reason the headlines in every case were set up separately was that no matter how nicely the pages were pasted up, or the electrotyped titles mounted on the column blocks, they always presented a somewhat ragged line at the top. Adding the headlines in type insured at least a uniform appearance as far as the top of the page was concerned; and as the headline had to be set anyway, it was but little more expensive to have them cast.

would present fewer difficulties, because the bulk of the matter would in most instances be in larger patches, and the small strips only incidental. The headlines could also, in most cases, probably, be preserved, and the entire cost would still be from a quarter to a third less than re-setting the whole catalogue. The casting of separate titles as done by us is not to be considered as of any value whatever. As already pointed out the saving is slight, and the work of putting them together almost impossible to any but one who has had experience in a printing office or foundry.

But there are two other methods which I think worthy of consideration by the librarian. The first of these is the "linotype" process. For a title-a-line catalogue this would be at once the cheapest and best possible. The "linotype" typesetting machine, as is probably too well known to need elaborate mention here, sets a line of type any desired width and casts it in one solid piece of metal. These machines are easily operated, take up little room, and may be hired at very reasonable rates. One of these set up in a convenient corner of a library might easily pay for its hire and put money into the treasury of a library that has much printing done. The title when once set may be preserved for years, and so be made to serve as the basis for a permanent catalogue.

The other method is the one projected by Prof. C. C. Jewett, with this exception, that instead of trying to economize in the cost of typesetting in the first instance, the work be done in the best style possible. The titles are to be cast separately on metal bodies, forming logotypes, and to be treated as type when being made up into pages. It would, of course, be hardly within the means of a single library, no matter how large, to do this for itself alone. Indeed, it might better not be done by a library at all, but by some agency like the Library Bureau, or by one to be formed to devote itself exclusively to this department of work for libraries. Professor Jewett's idea of utilizing the Smithsonian Institution for this kind of work strikes me as having been an exceedingly practical one, but it does not seem likely that the Government can be enlisted in this service.

My suggestion in a few words is simply this: A cataloging bureau to be established to undertake the work of preparing titles on a uniform system to be determined by a committee of representative librarians and specialists. To these titles also might be added library numbers and descriptive notes, on the plan suggested by Mr. George Hles. The titles to be treated in this way to be subscribed for by enough libraries to

cover the cost of production, plus a reasonable margin for maintaining the agency. The titles to be set and cast as suggested, and used as originals from which duplicates may be furnished to later subscribers and others. In course of time, say ten or fifteen years, such an institution would probably have enough titles in stock to furnish an ordinary library with a reasonably complete catalogue of its collection in less time and for less money, probably by half, than they can have them made at present. From the catalogue of this institution a librarian might select in a day a small class list which ordinarily might take a week to prepare. Having been carefully read and corrected, when once cast, the titles from this institution would be always correct. There would be no additional proof-reading, no worry as to the corrections of the expected catalogue; it could be depended on implicitly. And the cost of such plates would be a trifle.

There may be one objection to a catalogue prepared by either of the methods above described, and that is that each title would have to bear the name of the author and attending descriptions. That is all the works by one author would have to appear in the catalogue with the author's name repeated, as for example:

BOOTH, Mrs. Otto, ("Rita," *pseud.*) The laird o' Cockpen. N. Y., G: Munro, [United States Book Co., 1891.] 322 p. D. (Seaside lib., no. 1837.) pap., 20 c.

BOOTH, Mrs. Otto, ("Rita," *pseud.*) My lady coquette. N. Y., G: Munro, [United States Book Co., 1891.] 319 p. D. (Seaside lib., no. 1769.) pap., 20 c.

BOOTH, Mrs. Otto, ("Rita," *pseud.*) My Lord Concelt: a novel. N. Y., G: Munro, [United States Book Co., 1891.] 349 p. D. (Seaside lib., *pocket ed.*, no. 1778.) pap., 20 c.

BOOTH, Mrs. Otto, ("Rita," *pseud.*) Two bad blue eyes: a novel. N. Y., G: Munro, [United States Book Co., 1891.] 5-315 p. D. (Seaside lib., no. 1760.) pap., 20 c.

Just how this will work may be seen by the issues of "The Annual American Catalog." I notice that in Prof. Jewett's sample catalogue he made no provision for this, but the necessity for doing so will be evident. In storing them, a

title without an author's name would either be lost altogether or give considerable trouble in identifying. The "linotype" machine as thus far developed sets only capitals and lower case of a medium-sized letter. Italics, gothics, antiques, or eccentric characters of any kind would be impossible in its composition.

The possibilities of such an institution seem almost illimitable, provided librarians in general could be induced to co-operate with and support it. But of that several tales might be told. The library profession thus far has unfortunately not proved itself over-anxious to co-operate with those willing to make an effort in their behalf. The work done by the Office of The Publishers' Weekly for librarians may, perhaps, not have been practical, but as the only expression that was made manifest was a withholding of support, further effort had to be suspended.

The last of these attempts was made in the beginning of the year 1888, when it was agreed that the experiment should be tried of issuing printed cards of selected new books from the Office of The Publishers' Weekly. The cards were to be of postal-card size and printed from the type set up for the *Weekly*. This was an experiment in various respects, perhaps principally to test the question of a financial support for such an undertaking. The experiment was to be continued until \$100 had been expended on it, and it was estimated that this would cover the issue of 100 cards, which estimate proved correct. Each member of the Publishing Section received three copies of the cards, and the amount of \$2 was charged to the member's account as against his subscription of \$10. The cards were offered to those not members for the price of \$1 for 100 cards, only one copy of each being furnished. As an experiment in the direction of seeking outside support by such a subscription, this proved almost a complete failure, not quite twenty subscriptions being received. And as it was from the first not intended to continue the experiment without definite support from without the section, it was abandoned.

OUR CARD CATALOGUE: WHAT TO DO WITH IT.

By H: C. BADGER, *Curator of Maps in Harvard College Library.*

THE paper of Miss Green in the January LIBRARY JOURNAL must appeal to all experienced workers. Let me tell of some experiments of my own. Last November I came upon a well-thumbed copy of Dr. Todd's "Index Rerum." The sight of its face, familiar to me thirty years ago, moved me to question whether we could not find some

device for holding loose sheets, yet easily releasing or replacing them. Movable covers united by sliding flanges and connected by thumb-screws came first. The head of the winged screw slipping through a slot in the upper cover, when so turned, released the whole mass at once.

When I spoke to Mr. Kiernan of my "tube-nut"

secured to the lower cover, he said: "Why, that is like those covers brought from Italy. Haven't you seen them?"

He then showed me the neat books of Mr. Lane, described in Miss Green's paper.

My experiments went on. I put in one screw instead of two, had a quadrangular cut through the sheets for my tube-nut, and devised a machine, not yet built, for making rectangular cuts through masses of paper.

After a month or so of study on the subject a student said to me one day at table: "Why not put your binder into the *drawer*?"

The suggestion was fruitful. We went on and devised a new drawer, which I hope soon to show to our librarians.

The sheets lie lengthwise in the drawer, resting on a false bottom in the nip of a powerful clutch, and firmly secured to the drawer's hinged front. Pull out the drawer, turn down the front to a horizontal, and the sheets or cards stand on end, clear of the case, and as accessible to hand and eye as the leaves of a dictionary on its rack.

"But the sheets will be worn out," said one. "Yes," we answered, "we aim to save not the paper, but the reader."

Going so far, we found we could now dispense with all rods and all perforations of the paper, while the sheets could be set free by the turn of a screw, so that any one could be removed or replaced at will.

And now a score of questions pressed upon us: Shall you have one pile only in the drawer, or several side by side? What size of sheet shall you use? Shall you read from the front or the back? Shall you write crosswise or lengthwise of your sheet? How many cards will your drawer hold? What keeps them from tumbling out to the floor when you slack your nip?

Mr. Winsor suggested writing across the front of the sheet, even though the alphabetical order run from the back.

But so far now we have gone, and we are still seeking suggestions and making experiments.

We have made several models. The newest of these is a drawer 6 inches wide and $7\frac{1}{8}$ inches high. Its one file of sheets measure 5×8 inches. Of thin bond paper a pile 4 inches high would contain 1000. Of narrower sheets, three such piles might lie side by side in a drawer 12 inches wide. Have drawers set back to back, and with an inch difference of level, and the prolonged sliding bottom could go over or under that of the one behind it, so that the horizontal depth of both need not exceed 18 inches.

Of course, smaller paper means smaller drawer, but with even 500 in one nip there must be *length* to the sheets to leave the heap flexible.

As to the space consumed, a drawer $6 \times 7\frac{1}{8}$ inches and 10 inches long would almost exactly equal one of our college library drawers in cubic contents. The latter carries 1500 cards, each giving a writing area of 7 square inches. The drawer would carry 1000 sheets, each affording a writing area of near 20 square inches. The relative areas would be about 10,500 to 20,000. There would doubtless be a larger amount of waste in the larger sheet, and it might be economy to use slips but 3 inches wide.

In zealously studying our new drawer we have not, however, forgotten the *book* form with which we set out. We have made many models: none seems to us yet good enough to describe. We have not yet succeeded in making one that is *indestructible*, while still strong and light and cheap.

The book form has some advantages. We shall soon have one carrying securely, yet releasing instantly, some 400 sheets. But what is to become of us in a rapidly-growing library like the "Boston Public," if our million cards now on hand are to require 2500 of our *book* forms to begin with? We shall soon need a separate building for the catalogue.*

And that leads to my final suggestion that this is really a question not for librarians, but for our library architects. I myself am a Western man. I do not believe that our land's coming libraries are going to give acres to books and only square rods to readers.

Room for the reader is what we must demand; and the reader never more needs to be free from being jostled, hustled, crowded, or annoyed than when he is consulting the catalogue. Books can go anywhere, into twenty-story stacks, if need be, to be brought down and restored by a simple hydraulic elevator; but busy brains consulting the catalogue need room, light, and quiet, and there is no reason in the world why these should not be abundantly supplied. Our ideas in this respect are as yet far too timid and too small.

Why, for instance, must the perpendicular tiers of our card-catalogue drawers be set immediately adjacent to one another, instead of being separated by a yard of book-shelf between them? Here, at our college library catalogue, the *thinnest* man must cover *nine* drawers while consulting

*[The new Boston Public Library is expected to hold over a million volumes. The addition of 250 volumes of catalog, or even 2500 volumes, will not require a new building. — EDS.]

one, and a broad man eclipses 18 if not 27. Apart from the annoyance of those excluded, the reader at the drawer may be more annoyed by the sense that he is excluding others; and his search is often hurried, distracted, and made unsatisfactory by his seeing that others are waiting for him to be gone. Much of that could be easily remedied. Not an inch of space need be lost if the files of drawers be separated by shelves for large books. And why should not the case for the card-catalogue in a large library surround, if need be, a quarter acre of area? Consulting the card-catalogue is noiseless work. It could go on anywhere. The case might well surround the largest reading-room. Here in this old Gore Hall, to the floor of a reading-room about 120 feet long come down 20 large columns from the lofty ceilings. An architect might well have given

each of them a projecting base made up of separated drawers for the card-catalogue, each prominent letter or group having a column to itself. Or, round the gallery of the same hall, how easily might the 300 feet of railing have been, in an original plan, decorated with a cornice of projecting drawers supported by neat consoles or modillions, wherein a million cards might be stored, thoroughly accessible and with no waste of space or injury to the general effect.

Of course, we do not wish to send readers upstairs, but who would not prefer to go upstairs rather than vainly to wait and then hurriedly to search in a small, crowded, dimly-lighted room? Room for the reader, room for the catalogue, ample room, with light, air, time, and quiet, is what the librarian of the future must demand and the library architect must supply.

IOWA LIBRARY LEGISLATION.

BY C. ALDRICH, *State Librarian.*

IN past years it has been a very difficult thing to obtain aid for libraries from our State Legislatures. Even the State Library has been badly starved, excepting always the Law Department. The five excellent gentlemen from the legal profession who attain to positions on the Supreme Bench of the State, being *ex-officio* among the trustees of the State Library, as a matter of course look out that the library shall be well supplied with law-books and periodicals. No one will blame them for this, nor will any reasonable man regret that Iowa possesses one of the 5 or 6 largest and best law libraries in the nation. But the historical and miscellaneous departments have been sadly neglected during all these 50 odd years of our territorial and state life.

The last legislature, however, "turned over a new leaf," passing three separate bills, now become laws by the approval of Gov. Horace Boies, which look like the dawning of a brighter day for Iowa libraries. The regular standing appropriation for the State Library is \$6000 for each biennial period. But a special act was passed which gives this institution \$5000 more during the next two years, or \$11,000 in all, and the State pays the salaries out of the general fund. This will help out very much and in many directions, though the State Library of a great State like Iowa ought to have a clean \$25,000 annually.

The next bill appropriated \$500 to aid the State Historical Society at Iowa City. This is

a mere pittance; but then, it was all that was asked at this time. The society has had a yearly allowance of \$1000 for several years past.

The remaining act really establishes a historical department in our State House, where none existed before. As this is so purely an innovation in our State, it may be well to present the act in full. It will doubtless interest librarians and collectors, and it reads as follows:

AN ACT TO PROMOTE HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS IN THE CAPITOL OF THE STATE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

SECTION 1. That the three southeast rooms in the basement story of the Capitol building be and they are hereby set apart for the purpose of containing the historical collections specified in this act.

SECTION 2. The trustees of the Iowa State Library are hereby authorized and directed to appoint one person to be designated and known as Curator of Historical Collections, who shall hold his office for six years and until his successor shall be appointed and qualified, whose duty it shall be, under and by the direction and authority of said Board of Trustees, to collect and arrange books, maps, charts, public documents, manuscripts and other papers and materials, illustrative of the history of Iowa in particular and of the West generally; to procure from early pioneer settlers narratives of their experiences, exploits, perils, and adventures; to procure facts and statements relative to the history, progress, and decay of the Indian tribes, so as to exhibit faithfully and as far as practicable the antiquities of the past; to procure books relating to the history and natural history of this State and of the central region of the continent of which it forms a part; to subscribe for and preserve files of at

least two papers in each county in this State containing the official publications, and cause the same to be bound at the end of every four years; to thoroughly catalogue all such collections for convenient reference and biennially to prepare for publication a report of all collections made under authority of this act.

SECTION 3. It shall further be the duty of the curator, with the approval of the said trustees, to collect memorials and mementos of the pioneers of Iowa and the Iowa soldiers of all our wars, including portraits, specimens of arms, clothing, army letters, commissions of officers, and other military papers and documents.

SECTION 4. It shall be the duty of the said curator to receive and arrange in cases to be provided for that purpose, objects illustrative of the natural history, geology, mineralogy, ethnology, and prehistoric archaeology of this and surrounding States. All duplicate specimens to be divided as equally as possible between the Iowa State University, Iowa Agricultural College, and State Normal School.

SECTION 5. It shall be the duty of the custodian of the Capitol Building to proceed, under the direction of the trustees of the Iowa State Library, to prepare and furnish the rooms named in section 1, for the purpose therein set forth, and to remove to said rooms the cases and materials known as the "Aldrich Collection" [autograph letters, manuscripts and portraits], which, together with such additions as may be made to it, shall thenceforth form a part of the collections herein contemplated.

SECTION 6. It shall be the duty of the said curator to keep said rooms, with the collections herein specified, open to the free inspection of the people during such hours every day, excepting legal holidays and Sundays, as the trustees of the State Library may order and direct, provided nothing in this act shall be so construed as to exclude visitors from said rooms on Sunday afternoons during the sessions of the Legislature.

SECTION 7. That for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this act, there be and is hereby appropriated from any funds in the State Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$7500 annually for the present biennial period, and thereafter annually the sum of \$6000, out of which annual appropriations shall be paid all the expenditures contemplated by section 8 hereof. All accounts shall be audited by the Executive Council after being approved by the trustees of the State Library.

SECTION 8. The curator shall be paid the annual salary of \$1200, and allowed such assistance, postage, stationery, and incidental expenses as the trustees may authorize and approve, as provided in the preceding section.

The salary is an insignificant one, in view of the services expected and required; but there is always such opposition to the creation of new offices, that those who initiated the measure desired to avoid all complaint in that direction. Those who occupy the place can look to future legislatures to do them justice if they deserve higher compensation. The improved feeling in

Iowa is mainly due to the efforts of a few individuals, whom I wish to mention. Mrs. Ada North, Librarian of the State University at Iowa City, has written many articles for our newspapers, in which she has ably and eloquently urged the claims of all our libraries for better support. I am quite certain that she is the foremost Iowa writer upon library topics. It seemed hard to get the public ear; but I am convinced that her judicious and always able writings have had a powerful effect upon the public sentiment of Iowa. Then, Hon. Theodore S. Parvin, the Nestor of our Iowa librarians and collectors, has written and spoken often and most effectively upon this general subject. He was our first State Librarian, about two generations ago, and ought to have been continued even unto this day. But he was put out, or left out, because he was on the wrong side of politics, and so drifted away into other fields of usefulness. As a collector he has few equals in the nation. This is shown by the fact that he has built up at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, the largest Masonic library in the world. It also contains the literature of the other leading secret societies, aside from historical and miscellaneous collections, relics, mementos, curios, etc., etc. Others have written upon this general topic, but I attribute our good results very largely to these two excellent writers.

Our State Librarian has been making an especial effort to obtain a good representation of periodical literature, now so very valuable, through the use of Poole's great "Index." We have all the leading American magazines, together with many from the other side.

But the one point I started out to set forth in this letter is this: That the atmosphere of Iowa in these later days is becoming more and more propitious to libraries and collections. I look to see the library interest undergo a very rapid development throughout our State. The friendly interest manifested by our late legislature was most commendable. Individually and collectively the members and senators deserve high praise, for the votes by which these bills were passed were nearly unanimous. I predict that, within comparatively a few years, Iowa will become as famous for her State, town, city, school, and college libraries as for her fertile fields and vast agricultural productions. Wealth is being rapidly accumulated, and it would seem that almost every town will have some generous giver who will desire to connect his name with the founding of a public library.

PUBLIC DOCUMENTS BILL.

THE Public Documents Bill as passed by the Senate came up in the House of Representatives April 15, accompanied by a report from the Committee on Printing (Report No. 1092), submitted by Mr. Richardson, Chairman of the Committee. The report is a valuable statement of the history and features of the bill, in which each section and the effect of it is described *seriatim*. Two changes of importance in the bill as passed by the Senate were recommended by the House Committee, as will be seen from the following extracts from the report.

"The bill as it passed the Senate provides for the appointment of a superintendent of documents by the President. Your committee are thoroughly convinced that there is a necessity for such an officer, but they recommend an amendment to the bill, providing that he shall be appointed by the Joint Committee on Printing, being of opinion that he should be brought immediately under and more in harmony with the two Houses of Congress. The bill abolishes the office of superintendent of documents in the Interior Department, and imposes the duties heretofore discharged by him upon the clerk of the Joint Committee on Printing. It is intended that all the surplus books and documents in the various Departments, as well as all those in the basement of the Capitol Building, most belonging to the quota of members of Congress, shall be distributed by this officer.

"Your committee recommend an amendment to section 62, providing for the appointment of this officer by the Joint Committee on Printing instead of by the President, for the reasons heretofore stated in part, at least, in this report.

"Section 59. Since the passage of the bill by the Senate, your committee have received through the mails and from the hands of many members of the House earnest requests from a large number of libraries throughout the country for a modification of this section. The committee, therefore, recommend an amendment to the section by inserting after the words 'Executive Department,' in the last paragraph thereof, the words 'not intended for their special use, but,' etc."

The following is the text of the section referred to:

Amendment: "Sec. 59. Whenever printing not bearing a Congressional number shall be done for any department or officer of the government, except confidential matter, blank forms, and circular letters not of a public character, or shall be done for use of Congressional committees, not of a confidential character, two copies shall be sent, unless withheld by order of the committee, by the Public Printer to the Senate and House Libraries respectively, and one copy each to the document-rooms of the Senate and House, for reference, and these copies shall not be removed; and of all publications of the Executive Departments *not intended for their special use but made for distribution*, five hundred copies shall be at once delivered to the superintendent of documents for distribution to designated depositories and State and Territorial libraries."

"Sec. 62. *The Joint Committee on Printing is hereby authorized and directed to appoint a clerk to said joint committee, who shall be superintendent of documents and be entitled to receive a salary of three thousand dollars per annum.* He shall have general supervision of the distribution of all public documents, and to his custody shall be committed all documents subject to distribution, excepting those printed for the special official use of the Executive Departments, which shall be delivered to said Departments, and those printed for the use of the two Houses of Congress, which shall be delivered to the folding-rooms of said Houses and distributed or delivered ready for distribution to Members and Delegates upon their order by the superintendent of the folding-rooms of the Senate and House of Representatives."

There are a few minor amendments proposed, but they are of quite subordinate importance. The change in the status of the superintendent of public documents is probably on the whole wise, and the amendment in the other section is intended to meet the desires of the libraries. Whether it fully does this is still a matter of doubt, and attention is being given to the question.

The bill stands in excellent position, as it was referred back to the committee with authority to report at any time, subject to the right of way of the revenue and appropriation bills. It is hoped that Mr. Richardson will find opportunity to bring up the bill before or during the meeting of the Conference of the American Library Association, and there is every reason to suppose that the bill will be promptly passed in essentially its present shape.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY LAW.

A VERY notable example of the progress of library legislation is to be reported from New York State, perhaps the most important single step that has been taken since the passage of the Public Libraries act in England. The bill, which was approved by Governor Flower on April 27, is entitled "Chapter 378. An act to revise and consolidate the laws relating to the University of the State of New York." The bill is a comprehensive one, covering the whole field of the work of the regents of the so-called University of the State of New York, and is an excellent specimen of codification, repealing and replacing as it does by one definite system legislative provisions scattered through nearly fifty acts. The entire bill is of interest to library people, but we give only those portions which bear directly on distinctively library questions. Section 34, which is not given, defines at length the powers of trustees of institutions in the university, but as this section is practically a series of by-laws for the government of trustees, and has no distinctive library features, we do not include that in the summary. The bill is, in a measure, one of the interesting fruits of Mr. Dewey's work in connection with the Board of Regents, and he, as well as the entire library interest, is entitled to hearty congratulations on its passage.

Sec. 15. *State library: how constituted.* — All books, pamphlets, manuscripts, records, archives, and maps, and all other property appropriate to

a general library, if owned by the State and not placed in other custody by law, shall be in charge of the regents and constitute the State Library.

Sec. 16. *Manuscripts and records "on file."* — Manuscript or printed paper of the legislature, usually termed "on file," and which shall have been on file more than five years in custody of the senate and assembly clerks, and all public records not placed in other custody by a specific law, shall be part of the State Library and shall be kept in rooms assigned and suitably arranged for that purpose by the trustees of the capitol. The regents shall cause such papers and records to be so classified and arranged that they can be easily found. No paper or record shall be removed from such files except on a resolution of the senate and assembly withdrawing them for a temporary purpose, and in case of such removal a description of the paper or record and name of the person removing the same shall be entered in a book provided for that purpose, with the date of its delivery and return.

Sec. 17. *Use.* — The State library shall be kept open not less than eight hours every week-day in the year, and members of the legislature, judges of the court of appeals, justices of the supreme court, and heads of State departments may borrow from the library books for use in Albany, but shall be subject to such restrictions and penalties as may be prescribed by the regents for the safety or greater usefulness of the library. Others shall be entitled to use or borrow books from the library only on such conditions as the regents shall prescribe.

Sec. 18. *Book appropriation.* — The treasurer shall pay annually to the regents, on warrant of the comptroller, \$15,000 for books, serials, and binding for the State Library.

Sec. 19. *Duplicate department.* — The regents shall have charge of the preparation, publication, and distribution, whether by sale, exchange, or gift, of the colonial history, natural history, and all other State publications not otherwise assigned by law. To guard against waste or destruction of State publications, and to provide for completion of sets to be permanently preserved in American and foreign libraries, the regents shall maintain a duplicate department to which each State department, bureau, board, or commission shall send not less than five copies of each of its publications when issued, and, after completing its distribution, any remaining copies which it no longer requires. The above, with any other publications not needed in the State library, shall be the duplicate department, and rules for sale, exchange, or distribution from it shall be fixed by the regents, who shall use all receipts from such exchanges or sales for expenses and for increasing the State Library.

Sec. 20. *Transfers from State officers.* — The librarian of any library owned by the State, or the officer in charge of any State department, bureau, board, commission, or other office may, with the approval of the regents, transfer to the permanent custody of the State library or museum any books, papers, maps, manuscripts, specimens, or other articles which, because of being duplicates or for other reasons, will in his judgment

be more useful to the State in the State Library or Museum than if retained in his keeping.

Sec. 21. *Other libraries owned by the State.* — The report of the State Library to the legislature shall include a statement of the total number of volumes or pamphlets, the number added during the year, with a summary of operation and conditions, and any needed recommendation for safety or usefulness for each of the other libraries owned by the State, the custodian of which shall furnish such information or facilities for inspection as the regents may require for making this report. Each of these libraries shall be under the sole control now provided by law, but for the annual report of the total number of books owned by or bought each year by the State, it shall be considered as a branch of the State Library and shall be entitled to any facilities for exchange of duplicates, inter-library loans, or other privileges properly accorded to a branch.

Sec. 35. *Public and free libraries and museums.* — All provisions of sections thirty-five to fifty-one shall apply equally to libraries, museums, and to combined libraries and museums, and the word library shall be construed to include reference and circulating libraries and reading-rooms.

Sec. 36. *Establishment.* — By majority vote at any election, any city, village, town, school district, or other body authorized to levy and collect taxes, or by vote of its Common Council, any city; or by vote of its trustees, any village, may establish and maintain a free public library, with or without branches, either by itself or in connection with any other body authorized to maintain such library. Whenever twenty-five taxpayers shall so petition, the question of providing library facilities shall be voted on at the next election or meeting at which taxes may be voted, provided that due public notice shall have been given of the proposed action.

Sec. 37. *Subsidies.* — By similar vote money may be granted toward the support of libraries not owned by the public, but maintained for its welfare and free use; provided, that such libraries shall be subject to the inspection of the regents and registered by them as maintaining a proper standard, that the regents shall certify what number of the books circulated are of such a character as to merit a grant of public money, and that the amount granted yearly to libraries on the basis of circulation shall not exceed ten cents for each volume of the circulation thus certified by the regents.

Sec. 38. *Taxes.* — Taxes, in addition to those otherwise authorized, may be voted by any authority named in section thirty-six and for any purpose specified in sections thirty-six and thirty-seven, and shall, unless otherwise directed by such vote, be considered as annual appropriations therefor till changed by further vote, and shall be levied and collected yearly, or as directed, as are other general taxes; and all money received from taxes or other sources for such library shall be kept as a separate library fund and expended only under direction of the library trustees on properly authenticated vouchers.

Sec. 39. *Trustees.* — Such libraries shall be managed by trustees who shall have all the powers of trustees of other educational institutions of

the university as defined in this act; provided, unless otherwise specified in the charter, that the number of trustees shall be five; that they shall be elected by the legal voters, except that in cities they shall be appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the Common Council, from citizens of recognized fitness for such position; that the first trustees determine by lot whose term of office shall expire each year, and that a new trustee shall be elected or appointed annually to serve for five years.

Sec. 40. *Incorporation.* — Within one month after taking office the first Board of Trustees shall apply to the regents for a charter in accordance with the vote establishing the library.

Sec. 41. *Reports.* — Every library or museum which receives State aid or enjoys any exemption from taxation or other privilege not usually accorded to business corporations, shall make the report required by section twenty-five of this act, and such report shall relieve the institution from making any report now required by statute or charter to be made to the legislature, or to any department, court, or other authority of the State. These reports shall be summarized and transmitted to the legislature by the regents with the annual reports of the State library and State museum.

Sec. 42. *Use.* — Every library established under this act shall be forever free to the inhabitants of the locality which establishes it, subject always to rules of the library trustees, who shall have authority to exclude any person who wilfully violates such rules; and the trustees may, under such conditions as they think expedient, extend the privileges of the library to persons living outside such locality.

Sec. 43. *Injuries to property.* — Whoever intentionally injures, defaces or destroys any property belonging to or deposited in any incorporated library, reading-room, museum, or other educational institution, shall be punished by imprisonment in a State prison for not more than three years, or in a county jail for not more than one year, or by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

Sec. 44. *Detention.* — Whoever wilfully detains any book, newspaper, magazine, pamphlet, manuscript, or other property belonging to any public or incorporated library, reading-room, museum or other educational institution, for thirty days after notice in writing to return the same, given after the expiration of the time which, by the rules of such institution, such article or other property may be kept, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one nor more than twenty-five dollars, or by imprisonment in the jail not exceeding six months, and the said notice shall bear on its face a copy of this section.

Sec. 45. *Transfer of libraries.* — Any corporation, association, school district, or combination of districts may, by legal vote duly approved by the regents, transfer the ownership and control of its library, with all its appurtenances, to any public library in the university, and thereafter said public library shall be entitled to receive any money, books, or other property from the State or other sources, to which said corporation, association, or district would have been entitled but for such transfer, and the trustees or

body making the transfer shall thereafter be relieved of all responsibility pertaining to property thus transferred.

Sec. 46. *Local neglect.* — If the local authorities of any library supported wholly or in part by State money fail to provide for the safety and public usefulness of its books, the regents shall in writing notify the trustees of said library what is necessary to meet the State's requirements, and on such notice all its rights to further grants of money or books from the State shall be suspended until the regents certify that the requirements have been met; and if said trustees shall refuse or neglect to comply with such requirements within sixty days after service of such notice, the regents may remove them from office, and thereafter all books and other library property wholly or in part paid for from State money shall be under the full and direct control of the regents who, as shall seem best for public interests, may appoint new trustees to carry on the library, or may store it or distribute its books to other libraries.

Sec. 47. *Loans of books from State.* — Under such rules as the regents may prescribe, they may lend from the State Library, duplicate department, or from books specially given or bought for this purpose, selections of books for a limited time to any public library in this State under visitation of the regents, or to any community not yet having established such library, but which has conformed to the conditions required for such loans.

Sec. 48. *Advice and instruction from State library officers.* — The trustees or librarian or any citizen interested in any public library in this State shall be entitled to ask from the officers of the State Library any needed advice or instruction as to a library building, furniture and equipment, government and service, rules for readers, selecting, buying, cataloguing, shelving, lending books, or any other matter pertaining to the establishment, reorganization, or administration of a public library. The regents may provide for giving such advice and instruction either personally or through printed matter and correspondence, either by the State Library staff or by a library commission of competent experts appointed by the regents to serve without salary. The regents may, on request, select or buy books, or furnish (*) instead of money apportioned, or may make exchanges and loans through the duplicate department of the State Library. Such assistance shall be free to residents of this State as far as practicable, but the regents may, in their discretion, charge a proper fee to non-residents or for assistance of a personal nature or for other reasons not properly an expense to the State, but which may be authorized for the accommodation of users of the library.

Sec. 49. *Use of fees and fines.* — The regents may use receipts from fees, fines, gifts from private sources, or sale of regents' bulletins and similar printed matter, for buying books or for any other proper expenses of carrying on their work.

Sec. 50. *Apportionment of public library money.* — Such sum as shall have been appropriated by the

* So in the original.

legislature as public library money shall be paid annually by the treasurer, on the warrant of the comptroller, from the income of the United States deposit fund, according to an apportionment to be made for the benefit of free libraries by the regents in accordance with their rules and authenticated by their seal; provided, that none of this money shall be spent for books except those approved or selected and furnished by the regents; that no locality shall share in the apportionment unless it shall raise and use for the same purpose not less than an equal amount from taxation or other local sources; that for any part of the apportionment not payable directly to the library trustees the regents shall file with the comptroller proper vouchers showing that it has been spent in accordance with law exclusively for books for free libraries or for proper expenses incurred for their benefit; and that books paid for by the State shall be subject to return to the regents whenever the library shall neglect or refuse to conform to the ordinances under which it secured them.

Sec. 51. *Abolition.*—Any library established under this act may be abolished only by a majority vote at a regular annual election, ratified by a majority vote at the next annual election. If any such library is abolished its property shall be used first to return to the regents, for the benefit of other public libraries in that locality, the equivalent of such sums as it may have received from the State or from other sources as gifts for public use. After such return any remaining property may be used as directed in the vote abolishing the library; but if the entire library property does not exceed in value the amount of such gifts, it may be transferred to the regents for public use, and the trustees shall thereupon be freed from further responsibility. No abolition of a public library shall be lawful till the regents grant a certificate that its assets have been properly distributed and its abolition completed in accordance with law.

THE NEW LIBRARY DRAWER.

THE New Library Drawer, with its novel device for holding sheets or cards, was invented in 1892 by an assistant in the Harvard College Library. It is not supposed that old libraries can at once adopt it: its method effects too complete a revolution in the old ways; but it is confidently offered to new libraries and to those now entering on library work. It claims to surpass all appliances heretofore used by libraries:

First, in economizing space.

Second, in making the cards accessible to the light, to the eye, and to the hand of the reader.

Third, in the readiness of finding any entry and in the ease of removing and replacing any single sheet or the entire contents of the Drawer.

Fourth, in the saving it effects in the time of readers and of library workers, as well as in its contribution to cleanliness, comfort, and health.

This last-mentioned point deserves fuller treatment than a circular can give. Those familiar with the cards in the drawers of a public library, especially in the branches where they are much handled by children, need not be told that some

of them are already beyond saving by fumigation. To continue them in use is like requiring successive generations of school-boys to use the same identical text-books. These cards are becoming an offence to delicacy and a menace to health. The New Drawer seeks to remove or to avert that very evil. It aims to provide an elegant sheet for the gentleman's bookcase and a clean card for the much-used public library, such as can be cheaply and frequently renewed. At first glance, its method may seem to be expensive; it is believed that experience will show it to surpass all others in labor-saving and money-saving.

The saving of time to the reader is obvious. The cards or sheets lie lengthwise in the Drawer, secured in the nip of a powerful clutch to the Drawer's front. When the Drawer is pulled out, and that hinged front turned down to a horizontal position, the cards stand on end, clear of the rack, and as accessible to hand and eye as the leaves of a dictionary on its table. The reader rapidly runs the cards under his thumb to find a given name; it takes but a moment to be sure that it is or is not there, while there is none of the distressing labor of bending over dark drawers, peeping and picking at untidy cards.

The saving of labor to the library worker is equally great. Whenever a book is ordered or offered, an assistant must search the catalogue to know whether it be not already there, that the library may not unconsciously secure a needless duplicate.

When the daily additions to the card catalogue are inserted, the ease with which the sheets can be released and replaced in the New Drawer again saves to the library worker valuable time.

But the New Drawer's economy of space fully equals its other excellences. It is believed that, with the same space, it will afford an equal number of cards, yet with a writing area more than twice as great. The cards in the old drawers are small, thick, and heavy. To show them all, the drawer must come out for its full depth. To support it thus, it must have either a special side attachment or a cumbersome extension to the rear. Both consume space. In the Harvard College Library the smaller card-drawer, pulled out, measures $2\frac{1}{2} \times 11 \times 14$ inches, with a rear projection making it longer, thus consuming about 550 cubic inches. The double case, in which two drawers are set back to back, has a horizontal depth of 40 inches.

The New Drawer, having neither sides nor back, permits its sliding bottom, held in a slot in the rack, to go over or under the bottom of the drawer behind it, thus effecting a large saving of space. Its double rack has less than 20 inches of horizontal depth, while a case of single drawers can be set along a shallow wall, using space but 9 inches deep. These are advantages which librarians and library architects will appreciate.

More than this, the 550 cubic inches of the old drawer afford room for 1500 cards, each giving 7 square inches of writing area, or 10,500 square inches all together. The New Drawer, with the same space, carries as many sheets, but so much larger as to give a writing area of 20

square inches each, or 30,000 square inches all together, while, if we choose to lessen the area of each sheet, we diminish by so much the space consumed.

It is yet too early (February, 1892) to refer inquirers to libraries using the New Drawer but the inventor is prepared to sell to public or private libraries the right to make and use the same for themselves, or he will contract to make them and set them in place. Special terms to special libraries.

It is recommended that for public use the cards be made of a tough, long-fibre paper, like that used in the government "Coast Charts." For private libraries, a lighter paper will be provided. It is proposed at once to establish the manufacture of such sheets of several grades and sizes. And the matter of sizes, qualities, and patterns, as well as whether the old rods and holes are to be retained or dispensed with, is left to the decision of separate libraries.

If any libraries desire to substitute the book form for the drawer form of catalogue, it is expected that such a form will soon be provided by the inventor of the Drawer, carrying the same sheet. Made of wood and metal, it will be as good as indestructible; but as each book is limited to some 400 sheets, that method, which has advantages as well as risks, will be somewhat more expensive. For fuller information, address Frederic Badger, Cambridge, Mass.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN PARIS.

Translated from the Börsenblatt, Oct. 7, 1891, by Miss H. E. Green, Boston Athenæum.

THE city government of Berlin has lately commissioned Dr. Max Weigert, one of the city representatives, to visit Paris, in order to study the public-school system prevailing there. The results of his examination have been presented in a report which caused a lively sensation in professional circles. The unwearied exertions of the city government of Paris were fully recognized therein, and it was demonstrated with how much success the formerly neglected public-school system had upraised and developed itself.

Together with the care of instruction, the arrangement, foundation, and use of public libraries was promoted by the city authorities. The *Journal Officiel* contains in the number for Aug. 29, of this year (1891), the substance of the following account:

The leading idea was to put mechanics and laborers, as well as every one else, in the way of instructing themselves, and to put the necessary means of study and education in their hands, thereby inducing many persons to make a profitable use of their leisure time.

These expectations were justified by success, as was proved by the increased use of the libraries, so that the city authorities have now the intention of providing every city precinct, of which, be it said in passing, there are eighty in Paris, with a public library of its own.

In the year 1878 there were only nine public city libraries; five of these were very little used by the public, and the others were satisfied with mere existence. The books must be used in the libraries; none were allowed to go out except

under very stringent conditions, and then in only two libraries. This was not at all in accordance with the taste of the lower middle-class of Paris, which likes to read its book in its own family circle in the leisure and quiet which is not afforded by the reading-room of a library. It was therefore necessary, in order to meet the wants of a larger circle of readers, to make the sending out of books universal; this was done with a degree of hesitation, which was, however, groundless, as was shown by the result. Very extensive use was made of the increased privileges of the libraries; the number of books taken for home use soon perceptibly surpassed the number used in the library-rooms, although here also the circulation continued brisk.

The city of Paris has now 64 public libraries, all of which send out books and accommodate readers in their halls; they are open at the times when the factories and shops are closed; thereby corresponding in the most liberal manner to the circumstances of mechanics, etc., and the need of having the use of the libraries made easy to them. The libraries are kept in the mayoralty buildings or ward district school-houses; a central office provides for the administration and support, while in each precinct a committee of superintendence attends to the choice and ordering of new accessions. All expenses are paid by the city, which, in its last budget, in 1890, appropriated therefor the trifle of 225,000 francs. On every library in full use are bestowed yearly about 2400 francs, while 14,000 francs are employed in founding new ones.

The number of books circulated in 1890 was 1,386,642, against 29,339 in 1878, in the nine libraries then existing. In 1878 there was an average of only 3259 readers for each library, and in the last year the average was 23,500, which shows a seven-fold use of the libraries. In a circulation of a million and a half books the percentage of loss, scarcely 4.5 a thousand, seems very small, when we consider that the majority of readers do not belong to the educated classes, and are not too careful of books.

In accordance with the object of a people's library, it is desired, in acquiring new books, that they shall be moderate in price and easily handled; in consequence there are no literary curiosities, *éditions de luxe*, etc., but large encyclopædias and other valuable scientific and literary works, for which no cheap substitute exists, are not excluded. Such expensive works must, however, be used in the library, under the eye of an attendant, as the danger of injury or loss is greater.

The instinct for self-improvement, which exists in every man above the lowest, often needs only excitement or opportunity to become active. The great moral successes which have been obtained by public libraries have a far-reaching influence on popular and family life; and by their means a taste for reading is aroused and extended in quarters which were formerly without any sort of mental nourishment.

Let us, in conclusion, consider the condition of the public libraries in the imperial capital, Berlin. The report of the city government for 1889-90 reckons 25 public free libraries; 334,837 books were read by 14,900 persons, *i.e.* 17,219

volumes less than last year. The expenses were 26,490 marks, the allowance from the city treasury 23,400 marks. In whose favor a comparison between the two cities may be made, admits, after the foregoing account, of not the slightest doubt.

THE AUTHOR AND THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

From the Boston Advertiser.

THE curious legal question which has recently been raised, since the publication of the autobiography of a well-known man, concerning the right of public libraries to place a book upon its shelves without the consent of the author, is of great interest to authors and publishers. Does its possession by a public library tend to increase or decrease the sale of the book? Upon this question publishers in Boston are divided in opinion. One of the oldest publishers in the city is decidedly of the opinion that public libraries are a real disadvantage to the author. While Congress is devising means to protect authors, he contends, it would do them the greatest service to pass a law providing that no public library shall place a book upon its shelves without the consent of the author. Were such a law practicable, he insists, the sales of very many books would perceptibly increase.

Another publisher of this city, equally eminent, differs in opinion. In the matter of law-books, he admits, this rule holds good. The recent increase in the large cities in the number of social law libraries has had an undoubtedly disastrous effect upon the law-book trade. In some of the great buildings in New York City, buildings whose owners desire especially to fill their rooms with lawyers, it has become quite the thing to provide a completely equipped law library for the use of tenants. So general has become the practice that it has had quite an appreciable effect already upon the law-book trade. But in the case of miscellaneous books, the publisher quoted feels not at all sure that the placing of a book in a library is wholly a disadvantage. To be sure, in many cases, a person well able to purchase a book will often obtain it from the library. But there is also another side to the question. The successful book is not necessarily the book the most widely advertised, or the book that receives the most flattering critical reviews and notices in the newspapers. It is the book that is talked about. It is an open question whether the placing of a book in a public library, where it may be "known and read of all men," is not an excellent way to procure it to be talked about. It is certain that the most popular book is the book most in demand at the counters of the libraries. May not this constant demand serve as well to increase its popularity?

In this connection it may be well to observe that the first sales of a book almost always come to the dealers from the libraries. This being true, it is not unlikely that the demand at the libraries, and the consequent increase of the number of readers and talkers, may serve to advertise the book, and thus to increase its sales. It is an interesting question which many will discuss, but upon which few will agree.

LIBRARIES FOR USE.

THERE seems to be no good reason why the system of circulating libraries should not be extended beyond its present limits. The National Medical Library, at Washington, one of the best in the world, is a circulating library. Books are sent to any one who deposits \$50 as security, and they are thus placed at the service of the physicians of the country. Why should not the Congressional Library, which is a national library in name, be made one in fact, and packages of books be sent out, under certain guarantees, to poorly equipped libraries, or to societies or associations that might apply? There seems, on the face of it, no reason why such a scheme should not be successfully carried out, or why it should not apply to State libraries as well. Certainly their usefulness would be infinitely increased thereby. — *Boston Post*, Mar. 6.

GERMAN LIBRARIES AT THE WORLD'S FAIR AT CHICAGO.*

BY A. GRÄSEL.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL some time ago (v. 16, 1891, no. 8) published the plan which the committee of the American Library Association has worked out for the arrangement of the World's Fair at Chicago on the side of public libraries. It is the intention of the committee to invite the co-operation of foreign libraries. To the exhibition should come in the first place plans and models of library buildings, examples of their inner arrangement and administration, library reports and sample bindings. A small typical library should also form part of the exhibition. It would be very desirable to have the larger German libraries interest themselves in this undertaking. The majority of these need by no means shun the competition with those of other countries; and surely when it is a question of placing once before the eyes of the whole world in a large way the progress of library science, Germany should not stand idly by. Zealously begun and wisely carried out participation would surely be followed by success; at all events, the result of the joint exposition if elaborated in exhaustive reports from the technical side and then rightly turned to account would be of use to our libraries themselves. New and in part superior library buildings have been erected among us during the last decade in considerable number—we need only to mention Stuttgart, Halle, Wolfenbüttel, Leipzig, Strassburg—we could therefore present ourselves with a whole series of good plans and photographic representations followed by similar ones of the inner construction and equipment of our library buildings. Further, our manner of cataloging would be shown by specimens of alphabetical and the best subject catalogs, by samples of cards and card cases, while the different appliances for the loan department used

*[This extract from the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* for February, 1892 (p. 88-89), translated by Miss Mary E. Hawley, of the Library School class of 1893, is an encouraging token of interest among German librarians in the library exhibit at the Columbian fair. — Ro. L. J.]

in our larger libraries would also be displayed. Library reports in so far as such have been published by important German libraries; guides through libraries, historical accounts of our larger book collections, would form the next object of the exposition, with which might be grouped well-printed indexes to reference and good special libraries, as well as printed catalogs of manuscripts. All these to be bound in exemplary fashion to serve at the same time as types of our bookbinders' work. Single volumes of the *Serapeum*, of Petzholdt's *Anzeiger* and of the *Centralblatt für Bibliothekswesen* would complete the exhibit in a suitable manner.

The matter is herewith submitted for free discussion. The exposition takes place in 1893, so that there is plenty of time for the necessary preparations. If with official permission and support Prussian libraries would make a beginning led by a commission appointed for the purpose, then perhaps one or another of the larger libraries in the other German states would likewise find itself in a position to take part. In every case the great problem remains the raising of the necessary funds. Let the procuring of these be confidently committed to the higher authorities.

AMHERST SUMMER SCHOOL.

THE object of the course, session of 1892, July 4 to August 5, offered in this department under the direction of W. I. Fletcher, of the Amherst College Library, is to furnish as thorough and complete instruction and practice in actual library work as can be given in five weeks. This time is sufficient, when well applied, to give a good basis for future self-instruction with the aid of available printed helps, and to put one in the way of becoming a thoroughly-equipped librarian according to modern standards.

Instruction will be given daily (except Saturday) from 2 to 4 p.m., in the form of practical lectures by Mr. Fletcher, in which the whole field of library work will be gone over, cataloging being taught from Cutter's and Linderfelt's rules. The class will be furnished with necessary blanks, etc., and required to go through with each process as it is described. The class will be conducted as one of beginners, no previous knowledge of library work being expected. At the same time care will be taken to make the work at each stage so thorough as to be of use to those who are already possessed of the mere rudiments.

The class will also meet forenoons from 10 to 12 o'clock for practice, under Mr. Fletcher's supervision, in various forms of library work, according to the needs of the different pupils. For those who wish to take these hours for language work other arrangements will be made.

The fee for this course is placed at \$12, and is the same for all pupils, whether also taking other courses in the summer school or not. But the lectures given in connection with the summer school will be open, free of charge, to the pupils in this department, and the hours will generally not conflict.

State Library Associations.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE following circular has been sent out by the President:

ALBANY, N. Y., May 7, 1892.

To members of the New York Library Association:

In accordance with the vote at the White Mountain meeting, all who can attend the annual meeting of the American Library Association at Lakewood, N. J., May 16, will meet on Tuesday afternoon at the Laurel House to discuss New York library interests.

Though New York was the first State to organize a State association, we have intentionally deferred active efforts till we could secure in law the needed basis for broad and effective work. Every member should now feel the responsibility for making up lost time, so that by the opening of the World's Fair we may make a showing for library interests worthy the Empire State. The needed law has now been signed and certified copies promised by the Secretary of State early in the week, and will be promptly mailed to every member. Powers of library trustees are in sec. 34, while the library law is sec. 35-51. The regents of the University meet soon after the library conference, and we wish to lay before them the results of our Lakewood discussion as to the wisest rules to be adopted regarding apportionment of public library money and certifying books for subsidies. Please study with special care, therefore, sec. 37-50.

We have now by far the best library law of any State, and it is of the utmost importance to get the best thought of our ablest librarians as to how the regents can exercise the large powers vested in them to the greatest advantage of the State at large.

While the most important matter at this meeting is the new law, any other topics pertaining to New York library interests will be discussed so far as time allows. Members are invited to send in before the meeting any topics they specially wish brought up.

I enclose a circular of the A. L. A. meeting, which promises to be the largest yet held. Come if you can, and if not, pray send a short letter to show your interest in the work and to give any suggestions about the law. Remember also that our annual meeting comes during University convocation, July 5-7, at the Capitol, when we expect a full attendance.

There are many New Yorkers deeply interested in libraries who will be ready to join our association, now that we have a satisfactory law and a clear field for aggressive work. It is certainly one of the first duties of the present members to invite such friends as will be interested to join with us, and to send in to the State Library the addresses of all known to be interested, in order that printed matter may be sent them which will be helpful in the general work.

MELVIL DEWEY, President.

Library Clubs.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

THE eighth meeting of the club was held at Cambridge on Tuesday, April 12, when the members were the guests of Harvard University and of the Cambridge Public Library. About 150 persons were present.

The members assembled at the Public Library at 10 o'clock and were received by the librarian and the trustees. Col. T. W. Higginson made a few remarks welcoming the guests and calling their attention to a few characteristic features of the Cambridge Public Library—the large reference library, freely accessible to all, the revolving bookcases of new books and children's books, and the Cambridge Memorial Rooms, as yet but imperfectly arranged. He also pointed out by way of warning some defects of the building—the too scanty provision for readers and book-borrowers, and the inconvenient height of the shelving in the stack, although this had been carefully guarded against, as it was thought, in the plan adopted. He incidentally remarked that he had just visited for the first time the new Public Library Building in Boston, and expressed the opinion that though the trustees had undoubtedly made a mistake in not consulting their librarians in respect to its details, yet they had produced a building which was in many respects entitled to great admiration.

After an inspection of the library the meeting was called to order in Harvard Hall by Mr. Lane, and again welcomed by Mr. Winsor, who gave an account of the early history of Harvard Library.

The subject for discussion, the Selection and Buying of Books, was then opened by Miss Fuller, of the Library of the Episcopal Theological School. She read an interesting paper containing many valuable points in the way of suggestions as to the purchase, binding, and care of books.

Mr. Jones followed with a description of the methods of selecting books at Salem. The librarian consults the critical literary journals, the book notices in the leading magazines, bulletins of other libraries, and sale catalogues, American and foreign. He makes lists of the desirable books which are shown to the book committee when it meets, as it does half an hour before the trustees come together. Efforts are made to find works on the useful arts, as the leather and cotton manufacturers and the various occupations followed in Salem. A watch is kept for works on special subjects, as, for example, the Civil War and regimental histories. A suggestion-book is kept and specialists are frequently consulted. In regard to back volumes of periodicals, not

much attention is paid to buying them, but the library waits to have them given.

Mr. Green said that at Worcester the books are bought by the librarian, with suggestions and advice from the trustees, but he thought that in a small town the most capable person should buy the books and that sale catalogues should not be used, but the wants of the constituency be considered. Unlike the last speaker, he regarded it as highly important to purchase and complete sets of periodicals.

Mr. Higginson considered it a wise plan to ask the bookseller to set aside once a month books for the librarian's inspection; he would say send to the library every book published, if time were not such a serious factor in the matter. This would require, however, a librarian sent down from heaven. For small libraries he would choose reference-books especially, and when it was objected that these are the ones usually open but once a week, he replied that the smaller the town so much the easier to get into the library when it was not open. He approved of buying magazine literature and letting such purchases serve as a suggestion to those disposed to give more of the same class.

Mr. Houghton said that at Lynn the assistants at the delivery-desk help in the selection, since they knew what books are asked for and thus the readers' wants are consulted and the judgment of the community taken into account. Sets of periodicals he considered of great value—especially useful to the members of the numerous debating societies.

Mr. Cutter spoke of the difference in the methods to be employed in the little country towns, where two hundred dollars covers the whole sum expended on the library, and where trustees meet but three times a year, from those methods practicable in a library like the Athenæum, where the committees meet every week and where the bookseller is requested to send for examination all current books.

Mr. Barnes told of the system at Cambridge, where the purchasing member of the book committee and the librarian do most of the buying—the opinions and judgment of the librarian being considered very important.

One member of the State Library Commission, Mr. Green, was present, and he invited the club to refer any questions which should chance to come up to that body, but affirmed shortly after that the commission has no time to devote to answering questions.

Speaking of special lists of reading, Mr. Higginson thought that too much is said about reading for the young exclusively; he did not see why attention should not sometimes be paid to lists of reading for the old.

A motion was made and passed that the Executive Committee appoint a committee to report at the next meeting on the practicability of having the club prepare lists of books desirable for purchase. At the close of the meeting dinner was served in Memorial Hall, after which the various libraries and museums of the college were visited. Barges were then provided by the Cambridge Public Library, and the club was driven about the city, and at half-past five o'clock

Mr. Winsor entertained the members at his residence on Sparks Street.

E. P. THURSTON, *Secretary*.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA LIBRARY CLUB.

THE club held its regular meeting Thursday, April 7, at 7:30 p.m., President T. L. Kelso in the chair.

The opening paper of the evening, on "Classification," by Miss Lu Younkin, of San Diego, was read by the Secretary in the absence of Miss Younkin.

Miss Younkin says: "It is a common mistake with new libraries to adopt a scheme not sufficiently elaborated. . . . It seems to me that the only practical objection to using an elaborate scheme is the complexity of the call-marks. . . . I believe the Dewey system owes its success in no small measure to its notation. Long before the youngest messenger comes into the library, number is intelligible to him. For instance, 140 is a distinct idea, and 140-141-142 is a familiar sequence. But give him a list from divisions BFI-BFM-BFP, the combinations do not in themselves mean anything and never can. . . . I receive Cutter's 'Expansive classification' as it appears. I like it very much, but am surprised that he should recommend his 'r' scheme to even the smallest library. If I had but 10 histories I should classify them according to country. It is so awkward to reclassify that every librarian in inaugurating his library should work upon the hypothesis that he will receive 20,000 volumes the first year. . . . Merits being equal, or nearly so, choose the scheme that has the widest popularity, that toward which the newer, more progressive libraries are tending. I find that my best readers are pleased with a familiar plan; it seems like the face of a friend when one goes into a strange library.

"Then what advantages in co-operation that uniformity gives! What if there be no walking cyclopedia in our corps, the catalogs of other libraries working under the same system give me easy introduction to a brilliant galaxy of librarians."

In the discussion which followed, Miss Haines called attention to the catalogs of Detroit and Wilkes-Barré as displaying the advantages claimed for the combination of letters and figures in the call-marks.

Miss Hasse read W. E. Foster's paper on "Classification from a reader's point of view," published in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, 1890.

Miss Kelso says: "In libraries where, as in the Los Angeles P. L., the lack of space forbids the extension of the courtesy of the shelves to even the smallest number without serious inconvenience, we find the shelf-sheets, each class bound in movable covers by itself, of inestimable value, as they contain the latest authorities received into the library. In my estimation the day of printed catalogs is fast disappearing and that of special lists coming in."

The subjects for discussion at the next meeting will be the "Comparative value of magazines" and "American college libraries."

ESTELLE HAINES, *Secretary*.

Reviews.

THE AMERICAN CATALOGUE, founded by F. Leyboldt, 1884-1890: books recorded (including reprints and importations) July 1, 1884-June 30, 1890; compiled under the editorial direction of R. R. Bowker, by A. I. Appleton and others. New York, Office of the Publishers' Weekly, 1891.

A recent French writer, in discussing thefulness and constant occupation of modern life, and the ability that went with it of constantly reduplicating experiences and feelings, seriously predicted that surprise and sensation were becoming impossibilities. The present volume constitutes a mute reply to this idea. The previous volumes, of which this is a continuation, had made the plan, scope, and method of the work familiar to all interested in the work. The new volume might be a little thicker, and include more titles, but there seemed no chance to make it the most remarkable volume of the series, and indeed of the entire trade bibliography of the world. Yet such it is, and heavy and substantial as the toned paper and solid binding make the book, it is, to an active librarian or bookseller, literally worth its weight in gold—not as a bibliographical treasure, but as a working-tool, as essential in daily administration as a cash ledger or an accession list. In no other book can such an important combination of information be obtained. Not merely is it the trade list in which the librarian and bookseller can find the title, publisher, and price of each book of the quintade, but it is a bibliography of contemporary literature of more value to most scholars and readers than all the kindred works combined. Arnold advised one to never read a book till two years after its publication. For *belles-lettres* the advice is unquestionably sound; but a glance through this volume is proof itself of how small a class of works this advice can be extended to now. Classes of books which once had a large degree of permanence are more and more taking on the character of technical books and falling within the widening field where the latest publication is the best. And this change is one which the librarian must recognize. He can no longer only buy the "standards" in political economy, history, philosophy, travel, and other groups of books which once had a large degree of permanence. Even in pure *belles-lettres* he must be prepared to replace many works with new editions. In Shakespeare alone, the necessity for the latest editions is positive and marked, and this is equally true of Chaucer and Ruskin, and of many between them. To all these needs this great work responds with every essential kind of information. Perhaps it could do more, but in this respect it resembles Johnson's opinion of the strawberry: "The Lord might have made a better berry, but he never did."

To deal more in particulars, this list occupies 582 pages and describes 28,000 books with 37,000 titles. The author arrangement of the first part is analyzed into subjects in the second. In

all details of the main list it closely follows the previous volumes. In the appendix is given, as was attempted in the previous volume, a list of the U. S. Government documents from 1884-1890, which seems careful and complete, yet which the system of grouping under each department leaves unsatisfactory so far as quickness of reference is concerned. An author and subject index would have made it very much more effective. But even as it is, the list is by far the best yet attempted of government publications, and promises an eventually satisfactory solution of that almost hopelessly uncatalogable class of books. The next list is an entirely new feature—a list of the various State publications. Nearly all are the work of the various State librarians, and go far to give thoroughly admirable lists. Certainly for a first attempt it is most complete and satisfactory. It must have involved immense work, both in the co-operating compilers and in the editor who planned and re-worked the material. Following this is a list of the publications of societies, equally important and equally well done. The volume closes with lists of the various series, the various books of which are, of course, included in the main lists.

From this description the inclusiveness of the work will be at once realized. Nor is the completeness limited to the plan of publication. With each volume the evidence is strong that a finer sieve is used, and that fewer volumes escape the notice of the compilers. The editor himself calls attention to two *hiatus* in the work—municipal documents and privately-printed books. Both would be unquestioned additions. Personally we view them as impossibilities. And yet the same thought and energy which conceived and executed the part already done may find some way of dealing with these classes. A more important class, in the compiler's opinion, and one not even mentioned here, are the pamphlet periodicals. An index to some of these we unquestionably have, but only to a small proportion. Certainly they are now of enough importance to merit a section in such a work.

The completeness accomplished in this volume for contemporary books has stimulated the editor to sigh for new fields. And so a part of his preface is given to not merely hinting retrospective lists of State and society publications, but even more to outlining his already suggested plan of a "General catalogue of American publications of the nineteenth century." We shall not notice this here, referring all inquirers to the preface for the outline, but we shall make it the subject of a future article for the JOURNAL, when we hope to do justice to the subject.

P. L. F.

AMES, J. G., *comp.* List of Congressional documents from the fifteenth to the fifty-first Congress, and of Government publications containing debates and proceedings of Congress from the first to the fifty-first Congress, together with miscellaneous lists of public documents, with historical and bibliographical notes. Wash., D. C., Government Printing Office, 1892. 120 p. O. pap.

One of the most valuable contributions to governmental bibliography is the new "List of Congressional documents," etc., which is the latest work of Mr. John G. Ames, Superintendent of Documents, Department of the Interior, making a new proof of his indefatigable work in the direction of bettering government bibliography and the system of control of public documents. For the first time there is in print a clean and well-organized list of Congressional documents from the fifteenth to the fifty-first Congress, inclusive. It is closely in line with the method adopted for the similar list in the appendixes of the "American Catalogue," not attempting an analysis of the individual volumes, except where they contain not more than three separate papers. The documents of the first fourteen Congresses are not included for the reason, as explained in the preface, that the State papers or documents of the Senate and House of Representatives for that period have not been published in such form that a satisfactory list of volumes can be given. Following this list is a second one of the debates and proceedings of Congress from the first to the fifty-first Congress, inclusive, as found in the *Annals of Congress*, the *Register of Debates*, the *Congressional Globe*, and the *Congressional Record*, another exceedingly valuable list, well and compactly arranged. Finally, the publication includes a very clear statement as to the more important "Miscellaneous series of public documents" issued by the several departments, including such publications as the American archives, American State papers, consular reports, census reports, and explorations and surveys—to mention only those the bibliography of which has been in most confusion and as to which a key is most desirable.

This document should be at the service of readers in every library of importance, and in the name of the profession we take the liberty of extending most cordial thanks to Mr. Ames for this really valuable work, the difficulty and importance of which can only be realized by those who have endeavored heretofore to thread the labyrinth of Government issues.

R. R. B.

KIMBALL, ARTHUR R. Report of the State Librarian to the New Hampshire Legislature for the year ending October 1, 1891, being the twenty-second annual report of the librarian under the act approved July 3, 1866. Concord, Ira C. Evans, Public Printer, 1892. 343 p. O.

In the appendix of this report Mr. Kimball carries on and extends the admirable work he has already done in the way of cataloging and classifying the State publications of New Hampshire, and clearly presents much valuable and interesting information. The appendix covers more subjects than has been heretofore attempted, and occupies 271 p. as against 117 in the report for 1890. The list of the official publications of the State up to 1889 as given in the previous report is extended to 1891; space is devoted to the special publications of departments, and publications reprinted by the State Library during 1891, and there is a complete indexed list of reports of de-

partments, 1822-1891, alphabetically arranged according to departments in tabulated form. The chronological check-list of New Hampshire laws from 1789 is extended to 1891 as is the table of sessions of the Legislature, and a list of the earliest New Hampshire laws from 1699 to 1780 is given, with direct transcriptions of title-pages and brief descriptive notes, taken from the catalog of the Charlemagne Tower Collection of American Colonial Laws. A brief article is devoted to the growth and present condition of the New Hampshire State Library, with lists of the trustees and the librarians since 1866. The New Hampshire library laws, and complete tables of the statistics of public libraries in New Hampshire are clearly presented. The list of regimental histories is slightly extended, and the acts and resolves relative to regimental histories are included. There is also a full alphabetical list of the historical and statistical publications of New Hampshire prior to 1860, with descriptive notes and list of New Hampshire authors, and a catalog of the publications issued from 1859-91, now contained in the State Library. A list of the State and Territorial librarians of the U. S. is also given. One of the most valuable articles in the appendix is the alphabetical index, compiled by Joseph B. Walker, of the historical matter contained in the *New Hampshire Registers* of 1772-1892, in the *Political Manuals*, 1857-72, and in the *Peoples' Handbooks* for 1874, '76 and '77, with brief biographical sketches of the compilers. The appendix concludes with the constitution and list of officers of the New Hampshire Library Association. H.

LAW LIBRARY BULLETIN of the State University of Iowa, No. 2: [containing] Historical Bibliography of the Statute Law of Iowa. By T. L. Cole, Iowa City. University Print, 1891.

In our last issue we reviewed a list of the State publications of Iowa, and noted in that connection that the check-list of laws was practically that of Mr. T. L. Cole. There now lies before us the original of that list, filling 10 pages of the above-mentioned publication. Mr. Cole's name is in itself a voucher as to the performance of the work. For many years he has devoted almost his entire study to legal literature, and more especially to the various State laws. In so doing he has not merely dealt with the commercial side, in supplying series and filling gaps in many libraries, but has, as well, made himself an authority on this subject. His notes are probably the nearest approach to a bibliography of State laws yet made, and are the result of an examination of many thousand volumes. In the present list we have one instance of the results of this long study. Of its entire completeness, so far as issues and editions go, the reviewer cannot vouch, but the evidence of thorough knowledge and careful work is everywhere apparent. In all, some 60 issues are listed, and extracts from the laws and notes explain the authority or reason for each, wherever necessary. That such a list is a desiderata goes without saying, and it should be at once secured by every library having the slightest pretensions to this class of book. P. L. F.

PILLING, James Constantine. Smithsonian Institution. Bureau of Ethnology: J. W. Powell, Director. Bibliography of the Algonquian Languages. Washington, Government Printing Office, 1891. 8 + 614 p. O.

In this volume Mr. Pilling has finished the most difficult portion of his bibliographies of Indian languages, of which we have already noticed the Esquimaux, Siouan, Iroquian, and Muskegean. Linguistics which were first printed in 1609; which embrace such widely geographically divergent nations as the Massachusetts, Ottawa, Illinois, Delaware, Cree, Shawnee, Shewenne and Blackfoot; of which many of the volumes are of excessive rarity and which take 2245 titles and 614 pages to catalog, tell their own story of the difficulties and labors involved in a successful bibliography. And such Mr. Pilling's last list is. Whatever advantages the government support gave in its compilation, and however ably assisted Mr. Pilling was by collaborators in all parts of the world, it is still a marvelous piece of work for one man to put his name to. And that he has personally examined 2014 of the titles recorded shows alone the care and accuracy with which it is compiled.

In this volume, more than in those which preceded it, we find much matter which connects the Indian tongues with the better-known American literature. The biographies and writings of John Eliot, Mayhew, Pierson, Rawson, and others, prepared for the most part by Mr. Wilberforce Eames, of the Lenox Library, are distinct and valuable additions to our knowledge of those colonial writers, which is further added to by the 82 fac-similes of title-pages and texts, for the most part taken from their works. Indeed this whole series, though prepared with but one object, has added greatly to our knowledge of American literature as a whole, and deserves a place on the shelves of all libraries under that heading. Of method of arrangement and future plans we have already spoken in the earlier reviews, and therefore it need only be said that the present volume is a worthy successor of those already printed. P. L. F.

Library Economy and History.

Albany, N. Y. No. 2 of v. 10 of *Young men's work*, Nov. 1891, was a "library number," containing an article by Mr. Frank C. Patten, Consulting Librarian, from which it appears that 600 v. were added the first year, 800 the second, and it was hoped that 1000 would be added in 1891. A catalog had been made by volunteer help from members of the Library School. The shelves are open to the public. An article on reference-books gives 20 questions, with references to the books in which answers can be found. In no. 7 is another article by Mr. Patten, Three years of library development, and the report of the library committee. Added 990; total 3600; issued 4729 to 678 users (fict. 72%).

Bangor (Me.) P. L. Added 1510; total 31,029; issued 72,674 (fict. and juv. 49,931).

"As to-day is the fifth anniversary of our use of the Dewey system of classification and numbering, perhaps it may not be amiss to state our entire satisfaction with the system. The advantage of having books classified can be fully appreciated only by those familiar with library work.

"We were very fortunate in selecting the Dewey system in preference to others, because it is so simple that it is readily learned. The fact that we have had within the five years three new assistants totally unfamiliar with any kind of library work, and four substitutes, two of whom are still pupils in our public schools, to whom the system gave no trouble, is proof of its simplicity.

"The numbers fix themselves readily in one's memory without giving any thought to it. It is easy to remember the number of any division or subdivision which is often called for, whereas, by our old system of accession numbers, one was obliged to learn the location of the books, and if the position was changed the book could not be readily found unless the number was given.

"The combination of the Cutter symbols with the Dewey classification has also proved entirely satisfactory. Not only are we thus enabled to keep all books of an author, on any subject, together (which was our principal reason for using them), but slips can be arranged much more accurately and quickly by their use.

"We have used the classification with all the subdivisions. Some librarians, who have had no experience with long book numbers, have asked if they are readily understood by children and the comparatively uneducated. I would like all who doubt the satisfactory working of the system, with all its subdivisions making sometimes long book numbers, to see some call slips made out by children under ten years of age in our reading-room."

Bensonhurst, N. Y. The Bensonhurst Club has instituted a literary and library department and arranged for fitting up a reading-room and library, which will be made as attractive as possible. Several donations of books have been offered, and the library will, in all probability, be a circulating one.

Boston, Mass. Gen. Theological L. Added 910; total 15,725; membership 1140; receipts \$15,445; expenditures \$14,917. The poet Whitier has presented a complete set of his works to the library. During the past year the library books have circulated in 78 towns and villages in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Massachusetts, and in 505 towns and villages in 12 States since the library organization was made.

The directors, members, and friends of the library issued on April 14 a vigorous protest against the proposed location of a city hall just east of the state house, on the grounds that the library has already been compelled to give up two valuable buildings, especially adapted by location to its wants, for municipal purposes; that its present site was purchased two years ago at heavy expense and adapted to the uses of the institution; that a change of location would entail great expenditure, with the probability of inferior

accommodation; and finally, that the good work done by the library should entitle it to some consideration.

Boston. N. E. Hist. General Society L. Added in 2 years 682; total about 24,000. The Proceedings at the annual meeting Jan. 6, 1892, contain (pp. 25-39) a report of the retiring librarian, the Rev. Ezra Hoyt Byington, D.D., making numerous suggestions, and (pp. 18-24), the council's introductory note to the report of the librarian, which contests some of his statements. At the monthly meeting of March 2, Dr. Byington read a reply which fills over a column in the *Boston Transcript* of March 3.

Brookline (Mass.) P. L. (35th rept.) Added 1179; total 37,477; home use 50,731; lib. use 13,094. A comfortable and attractive reading-room has been built. A type-written card catalog has been completed, and about half the cards have been revised, outside of library hours, by the librarian. Another card catalog has been prepared for the use of young people to save the general catalog from wear.

Brooklyn Library. Annual meeting was held April 1; added 5406; donated 798 volumes, 1433 pamphlets, 2824 periodicals, etc.; total 13,251; circulation 97,208, being an increase of 2176 over 1890; total income \$25,345; expenditures \$23,732; membership, March 1, 2856. The use of the reading-room has been greater than in any previous year; average Sunday attendance 68.8. The amount expended for books was \$7262.

Brooklyn (N. Y.) L. for the Blind. A free circulating library for the blind was opened April 6 in the old Sunday-school room of the Church of the Messiah, on Greene and Clermont Avenues, under the auspices of Mizpah Circle for the Blind. The library has from 150 to 200 volumes printed in the raised letters used for reading by the fingers, and it will be open every Wednesday afternoon from 4 to 5 o'clock. The books may be taken on the same vouchers and cards required by any free library. There are said to be about one thousand blind persons in the city, of whom about two-thirds have been taught to read, more or less, with their fingers, and about two hundred are expected to become patrons of this library, which is the third of its kind in the United States.

"What are the more popular works with the blind?" was asked of the librarian.

"Well," she replied, "it may seem strange, but we have three calls for the Bible to one for any other book. Next to that novels are mostly in demand. Young men take more kindly to tales of travel and the trials of well-known men who have made their names famous. It is sad to see these poor, helpless, sightless people, but it is pleasant to know that we can, with the aid of this library, do much to lighten their life and reduce the weight of their affliction."

"How many daily visitors do you have?"

"About thirty-five if it is pleasant, and less than half that number if the day is stormy. Thus far we have had room enough for all, but sometimes there are not enough Bibles to go

round. We have only three of them, but more have been promised us."

The idea of the library originated with Rev. Charles R. Baker, of the Church of the Messiah, who gives much of his time and attention in personally superintending it, and says that if he had the means he would establish similar libraries in all parts of the country. The enterprise has entailed an expense of \$6250, and about \$4000 a year will be needed to maintain it.

Chicago. Newberry L. Hereafter the Newberry Library, instead of being managed by two trustees, will be carried on by the Newberry Library Association, a corporate board appointed by the surviving trustee, Mr. E. W. Blatchford. Under the will the management of the library was left to the two trustees of the estate, Judge Skinner and Mr. Blatchford. The former resigned in 1871, and the late William H. Bradley was chosen his successor. He and Mr. Blatchford realized the necessity of having a perpetual body to administer the affairs of the library, and secured the passage by the last Legislature of a bill authorizing the organization of such a body. Articles of incorporation were issued April 13 to the Newberry Library at Chicago. As formal transfer by Mr. Blatchford to the new corporation of all property belonging to the estate will now be necessary before the corporation will be enabled to take up the administration of the trust, this transfer is expected to be made as soon as the necessary papers can be prepared.

At the death of Mr. Newberry the estate amounted to about \$2,500,000, out of which the widow received absolutely one-third of the personal property. At the period of distribution the estate amounted to nearly \$5,000,000. The half of the estate belonging to the library has now been increased to nearly \$3,000,000. The building now being erected on the North Side is to cost \$500,000.

Chicago P. L. A grave difficulty has presented itself to the Building Committee and City Library Board in the unsuitable character of the Public Library site. The soil is very soft as far down as sixty feet, and will not justify the laying of heavy foundations without expensive piling and extensive use of beton and concrete. From the present indications it will be necessary to drive piles over the whole site, and they will have to be the longest that can be got.

Davenport, Ia. Grant L. The committee of the Bar Association of Scott Co. appointed at the meeting of Oct. 10 last to organize and incorporate a library association reported the work done. 114 shares of \$50 each had been subscribed for by the lawyers of Davenport and a few outside friends who had manifested an interest in the project, and 19 shares had been placed in Rock Island. This made a total of \$6500 that could be considered as raised, exclusive of a subscription of at least \$500 and possibly more, promised by Judge Dillon. No subscriptions had been solicited from the business men of the city, but the committee felt that it had received all the help from the legal fraternity that could be forthcoming.

Dover (N. H.) P. L. (9th rpt.) Added 1475 v. and pm.; total 16,077 v. and pm.; ref. use 8200; home use 55,201. The library has been moved to new rooms, which have been found very pleasant, giving more space. There were many visitors at the very first, reception day bringing more than 500 persons. But since that time the number is about the same as in the old rooms, some weeks even a little less. For the moving 10 men and 3 express wagons were employed, beginning Dec. 8. The books were moved in regular order, and on Dec. 12, having been closed to the public two days, the library was opened in the new rooms.

Dubuque, Ia. Young Men's L. A. Added 973; total 14,271; issued 25,023 (fict. 19,067); receipts \$3136.80; expenses \$2457.51. The association is not yet in a position to erect a library building, as was hoped.

East Hartford, Conn. Raymond L. Receipts \$899.65; expenses \$603.96.

Elizabeth (N. J.) P. L. The new books purchased for the library were exhibited in the reading-room on Monday, April 18, during the afternoon and evening.

Fall River (Mass.) P. L. (32d rpt.) Added 2223; total 39,000; issued 93,882 v. and 46,824 periodicals.

Fitchburg (Mass.) P. L. Any user of the library has the privilege of sending in a list of books they wish to have purchased to the Secretary of the Committee on Books. A blank-book has been placed on the delivery counter at the library, in which users of the library are requested to write any suggestions for its better management, any inquiries concerning special topics for reading, or suggestions for any new books that may be desired.

Gilford, N. H. At the regular spring election the town voted to accept the provisions of the recent State Library law by which the State provides about \$100 worth of books to start a town library. It was also voted to accept the library of the Gilford Library Association, and to raise \$500 to maintain the library for the first year. The Gilford Library Association will turn over its library of about 600 volumes to the town. Mr. C. Locke, Mr. L. M. Gould, and Dr. H. Tucker were chosen as trustees for terms of one, two, and three years respectively.

Gilpin L. Fund. Judge Penrose, in the Orphans' Court, Philadelphia, on April 4, made final distribution of the estate of Henry D. Gilpin, formerly Attorney-General of the United States. There has been distribution amongst the heirs and many institutions out of the funds of the estate at sundry times. The balance remaining was but \$810, which was awarded, \$270 each, to the trustees of the Gilpin Library, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the trustees of the Gilpin Gallery, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, and the trustees of the Gilpin Library of the Chicago Historical Society.

Harlem (N. Y.) Law Library. First annual meeting was held April 11. The organization

has had a flourishing career since its inauguration; it has now 125 members on the roll, is not only free of debt but has a respectable sum to its credit in bank, and possesses a library of 1500 works. Expenditures for the year, \$5688.66.

Hartford (Conn.) P. L. The new public library building is rapidly approaching completion, the outside work, with the exception of the relaying of the north wall of the old building, is all completed, and the inside work, with the exception of the minor details, nearly all done. The library on the upper floor, will afford shelf-room for 32,000 volumes, with available space for 15,000 more. Every detail for the successful display, storing, and examination of the books has been anticipated, and the most modern designs in accessories have been secured.

To the south of the library proper is the extension containing the stack-room and the vaults. The latter are the largest and most convenient and best lighted of any in the city. They are five in number, arranged one above the other, and will have Herring patent vault doors. There is a lift between the two buildings for carrying books or other merchandise from the basement to any floor. The Historical Society will occupy the portion of the building formerly used by the Watkinson Library. In the front of the building are the picture gallery and reading-room.

The entire north wall of Glastonbury granite will be taken down and relaid, with new windows placed therein to afford more light to the reading-room. The work is being pushed as rapidly as possible, and will be completed very soon.

Jersey City (N. J.) P. L. In March 35,317 volumes were taken from the library for home reading (fict. and juv. 20,875), and the total circulation since July 6, 1861, when the library was first opened for free use by the public, has been 203,339 volumes.

Key West (Fla.) L. Association. March 25 20 persons adopted a constitution, in which the objects were stated to be to maintain a library and reading-room, to furnish instructive and improving literature, to furnish literary and scientific lectures, and other means of improving the moral and intellectual improvement of the city; life membership was put at \$50, annual membership at \$10, entrance (\$1 for women) and \$3 annual fee. At a meeting held April 5 the membership had increased to 75 and about \$1800 had been secured. A good Board of Directors was elected.

Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L. The library has exhibited in the reading-room a choice collection of 35 engravings, under the auspices of the Ruskin Club, which is endeavoring to raise funds to purchase the collection as the nucleus of an art gallery.

Lowell, Mass. Middlesex Mechanics' Assoc. Added 732; total 21,985; issued 832 more than last year, with a smaller percentage of fiction.

Miss A. L. Sargent, the librarian, got up a successful entertainment for the benefit of the library, readings by F. Hopkinson Smith and T.

Nelson Page. About \$40 were netted in spite of a pouring rain.

Lynn (Mass.) P. L. (29th rpt.) Added 1733; total 44,821; home use 113,548; lib. use 19,454. A new building is called for.

Malden (Mass.) P. L. (14th rpt.) Added 2033; total 19,757; issued 70,064 (fict. 76.54 %).

"Our collection of pamphlets, which had grown to be a mass of questionable value, has been carefully cleared of worthless matter and duplicates, and arranged in wrappers for ready reference. It has been the rule of the library to treat as volumes pamphlets of a useful or interesting character, which is the surest method of bringing them into use. It was found that we could bring together a complete set of Malden town and city documents, which, with two volumes of Maldeniana, is now properly bound for preservation. Our bound Malden and other newspapers have been arranged and catalogued, and are now in order for reference."

The trustees look forward to printing a catalog; "In the mean time the card catalogue, which will furnish copy for the new catalogue, is being carefully examined and extended. In this work the use of that modern necessity, the typewriter, has been found most helpful. All cards are now printed in neat and legible type, and the same means is used in preparing bulletins and notices for the reading-room and copy for the printer. The typewriter is a most important helper for a busy librarian, as it performs its work in the neatest and most expeditious manner. The card catalogue consists of 48,087 cards.

"Sunday opening has been agitated to some extent for several years. In 1886 a motion in its favor was introduced by a member of the board and referred to a special committee, which, in a report based upon the experience of other cities and towns, declared that the measure was inexpedient. The next year a petition was improperly presented to the City Council and rejected. In view of the report of the committee of the trustees just mentioned. In October of the present year petitions signed by 265 citizens were brought before the board, asking 'that the reading-room and art gallery of the public library be open to the public on some portion of each Sunday.' After a sufficient notice given in the local papers, a public hearing was had, to which remonstrants as well as petitioners were invited. At this hearing several ladies and gentlemen gave reasons for the proposed opening, but no remonstrants appeared. An immediate action was prevented by circumstances; but the delay, although the incidents of the hearing were fully reported, failed to bring forward anything in the nature of objections, beyond a single anonymous communication. It thus appeared to the board that, although the desire for Sunday opening might not be of the extent and importance which its friends represented, there was a strong wish for it in the minds of some who were urgent in its presentation, and that an opposition did not exist, or if it did, it was not of sufficient strength to develop itself. Correspondence with officers

of other libraries showed a lack of uniformity in the results of similar openings, they being total failures in some places and absolute successes in others. In some libraries they have been abandoned, and in others they have not been tried, as no public interest exists in their favor.

"Under these circumstances a majority of the board is unable to see in the subject more than a proposed experiment, the success or failure of which can only be known by actual trial. As public opinion, so far as it has expressed itself, is pronounced in its favor, the board has voted to open the reading-rooms and art gallery during the hours of 1 to 9 p.m. on Sundays, provided the City Council in its appropriation shall grant a sum sufficient to defray the cost of the extra service and expense necessary for that purpose. It is proposed to try the experiment for twelve months."

Marquette (Mich.) P. L. The library has been designated, with the Detroit P. L. and the University library at Ann Arbor, as a repository for all government publications.

Middlefield, Conn. Judge Levi E. Coe, of the Meriden City and Police Court, announces that he will erect a \$20,000 public library building at Middlefield, his native home. The site has already been purchased. It is adjoining St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and the location is one of the most desirable in the town.

Montclair, N. J. At a citizens' meeting, held April 5, the Town Committee was authorized to direct the assessors to put in the tax levy a tax of one-third of a mill on every dollar of assessable property, to be applied for the maintenance of a free public library. Such a tax will raise about \$1700 for the purpose.

Natick, Mass. Morse Institute. Added 361; total 16,293; lib. use 763; home use 26,933 (fict. and juv. 76.56 %).

"The editors of the three local papers publish the title list of new books as soon as they are ready for circulation.

"The method adopted of purchasing books once a month is universally appreciated.

"It is inconvenient to look through the catalogue and ten annual supplements to find a desired book.

"The card catalogue needs making over. Many of the cards are missing, and nine-tenths badly worn or soiled.

"The benefit of the library could be greatly increased by establishing delivery stations in the suburbs."

New Britain, Conn. Institute Library. Added 607; issued 8742, a gain of 291 over last year. Alterations have been made in the library and its capacity extended; the Library Committee report the last year as one of the most successful in the history of the Institute.

Newark (N. J.) P. L. Added 8218; total 31,066; issued 306,070, of which 8008 were sent through 9 delivery stations (fict. 244,039).

Readers have been benefited by the following regulations: Temporary residents shall be re-

quired to make a deposit of five (\$5) dollars with the librarian, who shall deduct therefrom the sum of fifty (50) cents per month for the home use of books, the balance to be returned to the person making the deposit.

Books can be renewed without bringing them to the library; the user simply sending notice of the wish to have his book renewed.

Arrangements have also been made so that any book outside of fiction might be reserved on payment of two cents, cost of postal-card.

Delivery stations, too, have been established for the benefit of the people.

While all these means have not added to the circulation, they have served to keep the library before the people, and shown them that the trustees are ever working in the interest of the library users.

"The trustees invited the teachers to inspect the library, and on several Mondays and Wednesdays in March and April the library-room was given over to them after 8:30 p.m., and their appreciation well repaid the courtesy shown. On one evening over 50 teachers availed themselves of the privilege of wandering among the alcoves and personally learning the contents of the shelves and the resources of the institution. That these visits were advantageous alike to teachers and pupils is shown in the fact that more volumes have been taken out on teachers' cards and more of the latter have been issued to those who previously knew nothing of the extra privileges allowed to teachers to help them in their work of educating the young. Children trained early to the intelligent use of books in the preparation of themes and compositions will find the library of lasting use, and an increasing source of profit and pleasure as they grow older.

"In the bindery, 1333 books have been rebound in the old covers, 2070 books have been bound and rebound in buffing, 81 books have been bound in a better quality of leather at an average cost of about 27 cents."

Newport, R. I. Redwood L. (191st rpt.) Added 1071; total 36,291; home use 11,228.

"Most of the books issued from this library during the past twelve months are works which have been published during the year. There is very little call, except perhaps among novels, for books over two years old, and almost no call, unless by students, for books published five or more years ago. Hence it is evident that the supply of new books, and new books in all departments of literature to suit the various tastes of readers, must be kept up if the library is to maintain its standard of circulation."

N. Y. Apprentices' L. Added 3477; total 99,374; home use 233,549 (fict. and juv. 179,698); lib. use 4172; lost 1 v. to every 19,4624 circulated.

New York Mercantile L. (71st rpt.) Added 6364; total 239,793; issued, home use 161,208, lib. use 24,562; membership 5273. Receipts \$29,369.43; expenditures \$25,464.50. The attendance in the reading-room during the last eight months was 24,479, and the uptown branch of the library, in Fifth Ave., circulated 20,438

books. The Mercantile Library Association has decided to remove its down-town branch, on the 1st of May, to the arcade of the Equitable Life Building, where there will be no reading-room, but only a station for the exchange of books. The directors assert that this measure is rendered necessary by the steady decline of the business of the branch, which they say has been run at a loss for years.

This decision has been strongly opposed by many business men who are members of the library, and it is reported that an attempt is to be made to raise money enough by subscriptions to keep the down town branch in active operation, as heretofore, without either surrendering the reading-room or discontinuing the circulation of books.

Newton (Mass.) F. P. L. Added 2113; total 34,730; borrowers 10,615; agency distribution 53,883; school use 6635; total issue 105,988 (fict. 61.81 %).

"A very important work of the year has been the publication of a new catalogue of the library, prepared on the dictionary plan, which is found to be the most convenient for practical use. The entire building was wired and equipped with incandescent electric lights, which we find to be a great improvement over gas. The air through the library is very much better, especially so during the warm weather."

North Adams (Mass.) P. L. Added 1199; total 11,769; issued 62,524. (fict. 54.19 %); turnover 6.8; 3.9 books loaned for every resident—a good showing. The whole income comes from the town's appropriation, which for several years has been \$4000—i.e., 25 cents for each resident. The librarian asks how many other towns or cities grant so much for their free library. Boston appropriates about \$150,000, which, reckoning the inhabitants at 450,000, is 33 cts. a head.

Norwalk, Conn. Library Corporation. The library has removed into its new rooms.

Peabody, Mass. Peabody Institute. (40th rpt.) Added 689; total 30,075; issued 34,930 (fict. and juv. 70 %). To the Eben Dale Sutton Reference Library 4 volumes were added and 274 consulted; the number of visitors was 1190.

The committee says: "Without money and without price, without a feather's weight of burden to the anxious taxpayer, here, in these cheerful rooms, are gathered all the stores of mind and brain which earth's brightest sons have produced. Throughout the period of commercial gloom which we have passed, the Peabody Institute has been the bright spot in our midst. The historian, the poet, the novelist, the traveller, and the scientist—all find here a restful receptacle, and each waits for his sympathetic disciples. Let us hope that no specious scheme in the name of sordid economy will ever curtail its generous provisions or place a burden on its usefulness. 'Vampire literature' is easily avoided. But there is another evil which we all recognize and which is happily disappearing. It is the evil of the underbred book, whose bad example and vulgar ideals are more likely to be imitated than

to be avoided. We are sensible of the number of young persons, physically undeveloped, who are suffering for want of proper nutriment, but we take little note of the many who are afflicted with intellectual anæmia from a thin diet of underbred literature. Let it be always understood that fiction has its position, honorably earned and firmly fixed for all time to come. Blessed be the genius that gave to the world Micawber and Sancho Panza and Dalgetty. They are as much a part of human existence as is Roger Bacon or King Arthur. But there is a class of dubious novels which retail the scenes and actions of the fashionable set which hangs around the doubtful edge of foreign nobility, with which we have been flooded. Fortunately our library has but few of these."

Pennsylvania State L., Harrisburg. Added 4055; estimated total 88,000. The library being overcrowded, the galleries dangerously overweighted with books, and the electric wires badly insulated, the librarian calls for a new fire-proof building.

Philadelphia, Pa. The recent offer made by the Wagner Free Institute of Science to the Board of Education of rooms for the establishment of a public library, was accepted by the Library Committee of the Board of Education on April 11. The appropriation for this library is about \$5000. The sub-committee appointed to draw up rules and regulations for the government of the public libraries to be organized under the direction of the Board of Education handed in their report, which was recommended for adoption. It was provided that the libraries be free to all persons in Philadelphia over 12 years old, and that the hours be from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. The circulating department will be closed at 9 p.m.

Edward Rich, an intelligent-looking and neatly-dressed young man, who says he comes from Boston, and is 22 years old, effected an entrance into the Philadelphia Library branch building, at Juniper and Locust Streets, shortly before 2 o'clock on the morning of April 27, by breaking a pane and climbing through the window on Juniper Street into the first floor. He pried open the cash-drawer, and in doing so started the burglar-alarm, which communicated with the apartment of the janitor on an upper floor of the building. The janitor and his son were roused and succeeded in summoning a policeman, who arrested Rich. When asked why he had broken into the library, he is said to have replied: "I had four alternatives before me—to beg, steal, starve, or commit suicide. They're all crimes, but I chose the lesser evil." He was recognized as having been a constant attendant at the library for several weeks past and said he was an artist by profession. He was committed to answer the charge of burglary. The police believe that he was impelled to make the attempt to rob the library by pressure of poverty and want of employment. He appeared to be intelligent and well educated.

Pittsburg, Pa. Carnegie F. L. Librarian W. M. Stevenson was re-elected by the Alleghany Library Committee on April 18, the term to run

two years. The much-talked-of opposition did not materialize, as the other contestants for the position were withdrawn.

The Library Committee met on the afternoon of April 19, and after a long session, during which the revised working plans were examined, turned over to the Building Committee the whole responsibility of approving the architect's plans, arrangement of location and construction of the building, and selecting the materials to be used. It is believed that the excavations and foundations will be done before winter comes.

Pittsburg, Pa. Carnegie L. BRUNNER & TRYON, architects. Competitive design for the library. (In Amer. archit., Apr. 23.) — PALLISER, G: Competitive design. (In the same.)

Portland (Ore.) L. A. The stonework on the building belonging to the Portland Library Association is completed; carpenters are now engaged on the interior woodwork. It was the expectation of the association to be able to occupy its new building by the last of May, but from present indications this cannot be done until late in the summer, if indeed then.

Rutland (Vt.) F. L. Added 751; total 6866; circulated 36,909; receipts \$3633.01; expenditures \$3607.50. The library has received gifts of some reference-books from Reuben Ross, of New York, some individual donations of books, and a collection of butterflies from Don Francisco.

In memory of Theo L. Smith, who died eight years ago, her father, Warren H. Smith, has given \$1000 to the library, to be invested and known as the "Theo L. Smith Fund." The books purchased with the annual income of the sum will bear a fac-simile of Theo's autograph.

San Francisco. Merc. L. Assoc. (39th rpt.) Added 1665; total 61,825; issued 18,392.

"Obliged to vacate our old building before the new was ready, the books were moved and stored in temporary structures erected on the floor in our new building. To the temporary headquarters were taken all of the current magazines and newspapers, together with a selection of reference works and our class of travels, which was in progress of reclassification. This room has been open to the public as a reading-room. New books have been purchased quite liberally, and these, with the others on the shelves, have been accessible and issued, as desired, to our members.

"The removal was begun June 6, and in five days the entire collection of 60,000 volumes was carefully and safely housed.

"As was anticipated, we have lost some subscribers by our removal, and, having so little at hand to offer, have added but few new ones. The patronage in our temporary quarters has been very light, but this, to compensate, has furnished us the opportunity to prosecute all the more rapidly the work of reclassification begun with the year. The progress is a slow one at best, and but little progress can be made in the broken moments snatched from the ordinary busy service of a library. It consists, in brief, for each individual volume, of the following operations, viz.: 1st, assignment in place in the classification; 2d, assignment of book number; 3d,

entry in accession register; 4th, card to be made for shelf list; 5th, cards to be made for catalogue; and, in the case of old works, the additional labor of removing the old labels and of hunting up and changing all of the original catalogue entries. During the year all new books received have been given the new classification. These number 1665. In addition to these we have changed 2231 volumes from the old system to the new."

San Francisco. State L. The library has received a proposition from the Bancroft-Whitney Company for the purchase of all of the duplicate California Reports, but the price was considered too low, and the proposition was not accepted. A printed list of 500 titles has been prepared of works relative to California not now in the library. Copies of the list will be sent to dealers in various parts of the country with requests that they make proposals for supplying the volumes wanted. The trustees will purchase the manuscript compiled by W. J. Davis, containing all notices relative to the discovery of gold in California, and will arrange to publish Mr. Davis' "Political history," containing the proceedings of all political bodies of State importance, since the organization of the State to 1884.

Saugus (Mass.) F. P. L. The free delivery of books to Cliftondale was begun April 20. Catalogues, library slips, and delivery cards are supplied from the post-office, which is used as a receiving and delivery station, and lists of recent additions in convenient form are also furnished. The library slips and cards are left once a week at the post-office before 2 p.m., and the books are ready for distribution at 5 p.m.

Southbridge (Mass.) P. L. Added 568; total 14,307; issued 16,760 (fict. and juv. 65.15 %).

"All persons who are seeking information upon special subjects are permitted to come freely to the shelves, and are given such assistance as it is in our power to render. We have found but one serious objection to this method, and that is the confusion resulting from so many at the shelves during our busy hours. Hence we have withdrawn the privilege Sunday evenings, and also do not allow free access to the department of fiction. It is encouraging to observe how much this privilege adds to the real educational influence of the library, and also to see that the privilege is rarely abused. The usefulness of the library will in the coming years be much more appreciated as the possibilities of making it so are better understood. The privileges granted teachers are, as new methods of teaching take the place of the old, more highly valued and more eagerly sought. The various literary societies find in the volumes here that aid in their studies and investigations which stimulates to desire for more knowledge, and thus it seems that the public library, which in years gone by was considered, except by a few, as a place for obtaining reading chiefly for recreation, has become one of the educational powers of the day."

United States. The Bureau of Education has issued a circular of questions with the intention of preparing a table of public libraries containing 1000 or more volumes, which shall include more items than the table in the Report of the Bureau for 1884-85.

Uxbridge (Mass.) F. P. L. (12th rpt.) Issued 6997 (fict. 5431).

"The trial has been made of allowing 6 books to each school under the charge of the teacher. The teachers that have taken advantage of the plan speak highly of it. Some 80 books have been lent in this way."

Wilmington, Del. Institute Library. Added 578; total 18,629; circulated 33,169, a decrease of 675 since last year; membership has fallen within the year from 686 to 679. The library is in good condition, though the effort which was made to interest the public schools in the institute by issuing school-tickets at reduced rates did not bring about as large an increase as was expected.

Wilmington, Del. Shields L. Bids for the general contract, steam heating, and electric lighting of the new building to be erected by the Shields L. A. were opened on April 19.

Worcester (Mass.) F. P. L. (32d rpt.) Added 4077; total 85,502; home use 129,760; reference use 57,059, not including Sunday use 1207 and holiday use 454. The new building has proved very convenient. The increase in the use of the reference department and of the newspaper reading-room has been very noticeable. An exhibition of portraits and two exhibitions of other pictures have been held in the gallery and were well attended.

FOREIGN.

Birmingham (Eng.) F. Ls. (30th rpt.) Added 6155; total 160,230; issued 855,096 (fict. and juv. 376,857). "Three years ago the committee decided to try the experiment of placing a number of dictionaries, directories, encyclopaedias, gazetteers, dictionaries of biography, and other works much in demand, on shelves within reach of the readers, so that they might be consulted without filling up a reader's ticket. This arrangement was so much appreciated that during the year the committee have considerably increased the provision thus made. The same accommodation, although of course on a more limited scale, has been given at the branch libraries. The result has been that the recorded issues of books do not show the same rate of increase as formerly, although the real usefulness of the libraries has been greatly increased."

Bristol, Eng. "Mr. E. Norris Matthews, late assistant librarian of the Birmingham Free Libraries, who is now settled in Bristol, has written a pamphlet, entitled 'Birmingham and Bristol,' in which he endeavors to stir up the ancient city of Bristol to an emulation of the great Midland town in the matter of providing a free reference library and free museum. 'Whilst Bristol,' he writes, 'points with mingled feelings of reverence and pride to the old churches and almshouses erected in the past, the Birmingham citizen of to-day points to his public buildings, to his Midland Institute, or his Mason College, to his Aston Hall and grounds, to his magnificent art gallery and museum, or to his matchless reference library and central reading-rooms. He knows that he has his share in the proprietorship of these noble institutions, with the feeling that there is no taint of charity upon them; and that artisan or duke, be they similar in literary or ar-

tistic taste, may alike participate in the manifold privileges afforded.'"

Liverpool (Eng.) F. P. L. (39th rpt.) Vols. in the reference library 99,064, in the lending libraries not stated; issued 1,015,225. "We have now complete libraries of all recent works on technology at the Central Library and at the three branch libraries, and in order to bring these books directly under the notice of artisans a special catalogue has been printed and distributed among the workshops in the city."

Manitoba, Can. Provincial Library. Added 667; total 11,248; pamphlets, etc., added 400; total 3918. \$3500 was voted for salaries and maintenance of the library, reading-room, and museum. The library has been materially enlarged by exchanges and donations from literary and scientific institutions both in Europe and America. Donations of minerals and other specimens were received from the Survey of Canada, and a number of curiosities were added to the Indian section of the museum.

Newington, Eng. RONTZ, Ernest A. Design for Public Library. (In *Amer. architect*, Apr. 9.)

Sydney (Australia) Mechanics' School of Arts. (58th rpt.) Added 3985 works; total 32,344 complete works; issued 186,400, including 35 190 monthly parts of magazines; Sunday afternoon attendance 4518; periodicals and newspapers taken 606. "In August last a monthly newspaper was issued, with the title of *The Library*, and 10,000 copies are distributed gratuitously every month. The system of exchange by carrier has been largely availed of in the suburbs, over 800 parcels of books having been so delivered. The country membership has also increased. It may be mentioned that an average parcel of books (7 lb.) can now be sent by train for 3d. for each 150 miles up to 300, and all distances over 300 miles for 9d. During the past twelve months 1044 parcels of books have been exchanged by rail.

"At the last annual meeting a resolution was carried cancelling the use of the Reserve Book system, and it was therefore discontinued, but so much dissatisfaction arose in consequence, and the privilege was so constantly called for, that your committee decided it was to the interest of the institution to re-establish the system, which was accordingly done in May last, since which time 2100 reserve tickets have been issued.

"The books in the library have been largely used, and a number of valuable works has been added. There were two convictions of persons stealing books from the reference library, and in each instance the offender received heavy punishment.

"The ladies' reading-room has become inadequate to the demands made upon it, as there are now 2432 lady members on the books."

Wigan (Eng.) P. L. "Apropos of the life of Mr. Bradlaugh, it may be noted that for circulating another 'life' published in his lifetime he threatened the Wigan Public Library with an action for libel. The librarian settled the matter with an apology and solicitors' costs amounting to £5 9s. 2d. But there remains the question, Is a public library to be amenable to such an action? If so, the post of chief librarian will be an onerous one indeed."

Librarians.

HUDSON, William H., assistant librarian of Cornell University, has been appointed assistant professor of English literature in the Leland Stanford, Jr., University. Mr. Hudson was at one time the private secretary of Herbert Spencer, and in that capacity was brought into contact with many distinguished men of letters in England. He has contributed to leading English and American magazines, and is now just completing the manuscript of a somewhat extended work on "The religious drama in England," a subject to which he has given much attention, and of which there is yet no satisfactory treatment in English.

LINDERFELT, K. A., librarian of the Milwaukee Public Library, was arrested April 28 on a charge of embezzling city funds. A few years ago it was discovered that Prof. Linderfelt had not turned over some \$1800 received by him in fines, but he explained that the money had been received in small amounts and he had not had time to check them up. He soon after turned over the amount called for, and his integrity continued unchallenged, when a few years ago the secretary of the School Board was found to have embezzled \$50,000. An expert accountant was set at work checking up the various city departments. April 27 this accountant informed Mayor Somers that he had found a defalcation amounting to \$5000, at least, in Prof. Linderfelt's accounts.

He was called before the Board of Trustees and Mayor Somers and asked to explain. He admitted the facts, and said he had already confessed to one of the board, Mr. William Plankinton, but had not mentioned how the money was taken, and Mr. Plankinton thought it was a misappropriation of fines alone. Dr. Linderfelt was taken to the Central Police Station and locked up. As far as can be learned, he lived plainly with his wife and four children. His friends have raised the sum which he is accused of having embezzled, and it is expected that he will be released without punishment.

MOORE, George Henry, the Superintendent of the Lenox Library and a well-known bibliographer, died from pneumonia May 5. He was engaged in active work at the library until he was attacked by sickness a week ago. Mr. Moore came of a family of scholars. His father, Dr. Jacob B. Moore, was a noted New England editor and afterward the librarian of the New York Historical Society, in this city. The son was born at Concord, New Hampshire, in 1823. He entered Dartmouth College at an early age, and continued his studies there until he came to New York in 1840. He was matriculated at the University of the City of New York and was graduated from that institution in 1845 with the highest honors. He was then chosen to be professor of law in the university, and his alma mater conferred upon him the degree of LL.D. While a student Mr. Moore was assistant librarian to his father and succeeded him as librarian in 1849. While engaged in this work he cultivated his

tastes for literature and for historical research. For fifty years he was a member of the New York Historical Society and one of its most enthusiastic workers.

Mr. Moore and James Lenox, the founder of the Lenox Library, were personal friends. When Mr. Lenox was planning the institution which bears his name, George Henry Moore was his adviser. The collection of the books which were the nucleus of the Lenox Library was added in by Mr. Moore. When the library was founded he became its superintendent and had charge of the institution from 1872 until the time of his death.

Mr. Moore delivered a large number of addresses before literary and scientific societies, and was the author of about 25 books and pamphlets. Among his published works are: "The Treason of Major-General Charles Lee," "The History of Slavery in Massachusetts," "Notes upon the History of the Old State House in Boston," "Notes upon the History of Witchcraft in Massachusetts," "History of the Jurisprudence of New York," "Washington as an Angler," "The Employment of Negroes in the Revolutionary Army," and "The Early History of Columbia College." He made a specialty of the study of New England history, and at one time he had the most complete collection of the old laws of Massachusetts in the country. He gave much of his time to the literature of the Colonial and Revolutionary periods, and was recognized as an authority upon all matters relating to books.

Mr. Moore was a life member of the New York Historical Society, a corresponding member of the Massachusetts Historical Society, life member of the American Geographical Society and of the Bostonian Society. He was connected with the New England Historic Genealogical Society and the American Antiquarian Society, and was a member of the Executive Committee of the New York Historical Society, and for many years a member of the Council of the University of the City of New York. He leaves a widow and two children.

Cataloging and Classification.

The Centralbl. f. Bib. for April was unusually practical, having (pp. 172-180) the "Instruktion für die Herstellung der Zettel des alphabetischen Kataloges," ordained by the government for the Royal Prussian libraries, and (pp. 180-185) "Ueber die Verwendung von Schreibmaschinen für bibliothekarische Katalogisierungsarbeiten, by H. Simon."

The BOSTON P. L. Bulletin for April has Part 3 of the Historical fiction index (6 p.), a list of works on Electricity (24 p.), and "Memorandums made in a tour of the Eastern States in 1797, by Robert Gilmor, of Baltimore, repr. from a ms. in the library, with [19] views from pen sketches by the author."

ELTON. The London *Bookman* says: "The sumptuous catalogue of the Elton Library, which has been published by Mr. Bernard Quaritch,

and in the compiling of which Mr. Alfred Pollard has been the constant adviser of the owners, is calculated to fill the souls of bibliophiles with delight, or to make them green with envy, according to their temperament. Outsiders who have the chance of turning over the leaves will be struck by the fact that even for a catalogue it is an unusually readable book. The descriptive notes contain many good things."

The HARVARD UNIV. Library's Bibliog. contributions no. 44 is "8th list of the publications of Harvard University," etc., by W. Hopkins Tillinghast, assistant librarian.

The JERSEY CITY Library record for March 15 contained the *World almanac's* list of the 10 great novels of the world, and a further list of 90, all with the library call numbers added.

The LOS ANGELES P. L. bulletin for March has a California poetry and fiction list (1 col.).

FULL NAMES.

Supplied by Harvard College Library.

Darlington, Joseph James (A treatise on the law of personal property);
 Echols, S: Anthony (American celebrities);
 Henderson, W: James (Preludes and studies);
 Manchester, Daniel Wilbur (Historical sketch of the Western Reserve Historical Society);
 Merrill, G: Perkins (Stones for building and decoration);
 Porter, W: Wagener (A treatise on the law of bills of lading);
 Prince, J: Tilden (Methods of instruction and organization of the schools of Germany);
 Randall, Caleb Dwinell (The fourth international prison congress, St. Petersburg, Russia);
 Reilly, J: Timon (Passing events in the life of Cardinal Gibbons);
 Richardson, H: Tucker, *joint author* (The world's best books).

Bibliograph.

GERMANY. REICHSDRUCKEREI. Monumenta Germaniae et Italiae typographica; deutsche und italienische Incunabeln m. getreuen Nachbilden, hrsg. von der Direktion der Reichsdruckerei. Lief. 1. Lpz., [Otto Harrassowitz,] 1892. F°. 25 Tafeln. 20 marks.

HOFFMANN, R. Bibliographische Rundschau auf dem Gebiete der Theologie. Jahrg. 5. 1892. no. 1. Lpz., 1892. 1. 8°.

LEGUINA, E. de. Libros de esgrima españoles y portugueses. Madrid, 1892. 165 p. 4°.

MOURIER, A., and DELTOUR, F. Catalogue et analyse des thèses françaises et latines admises par la faculté des lettres. 1890-91. Paris, 1892. 4+48 p. 8°.

OTHMER. Vademecum des Sortimenters. Erscheinungen auf dem Gebiete der schön-wissensch. Literatur. 4. Aufl. Hannover, 1892. 3+663 p.

ROTT, E. Inventaire sommaire des doc. rel. à l'histoire de Suisse, dans les archives et bibliothèques de Paris. partie 4^e, 1685-1700. Genève, 1892. 10+811 p. 8°.

SMART, T: Burnett. The bibliography of Matthew Arnold. London, J. Davy & Sons, 1892. 10+90 p. O. 8s.

SZCZEPANSKI, F. von. Bibliotheca electrotechnica. St. Petersburg, 1892. 75 p. 8°.

WILLOUGHBY, W: F. Statistical publications of the U. S. government. Phila., n. d., pp. 91-104 p. O. (Amer. Acad. of Pol. and Soc. Sci. Pub., no. 35.)

INDEXES.

CASANOVA, Eug. Indice tripartito della 4^a serie dell' ARCHIVIO storico italiano (volumi 20, 1878-1887). Firenze, M. Cellini e C., 1891. 4+176 p. 8°. 5 lire.

PUBLISHING SOCIETIES' ADDRESSES WANTED.

THE editor of the "American Catalogue" desires the addresses of the following societies, which the Post Office authorities have been unable to locate, and will be obliged to any librarian who can furnish any of the addresses:

American Architectural League, New York City;
 American Colonization Society;
 American Institute of Homœopathy;
 American Instructors of the Deaf and Dumb;
 American Jersey Cattle Club;
 American Laryngological Society, New York City (?);
 American Society of Microscopics;
 American Orthopedic Association;
 American Otological Society;
 American Peace Society;
 American Pomological Society;
 American Society for Psychical Research;
 American Society of Railroad Superintendents;
 Association of American Physicians;
 Church Library Association;
 — Commandery of Ohio;
 Dennison Scientific Association;
 Eclectic Medical Association;
 Kansas, Bar Association of;
 Kansas State Grange;
 Lackawanna Institute of History and Science;
 — Massachusetts Commandery;
 Massachusetts Eclectic Medical Society;
 Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture;
 National Prison Association;
 New England Agricultural Society;
 New England Association of Colleges and Preparatory Schools;
 New England Education Society;
 Texas State Teachers' Association;
 Wisconsin Press Association;
 Women's Anthropological Society of America;
 Y. M. C. A. International Committee.

American Library Association.

LAKEWOOD CONFERENCE.

THE meeting at Lakewood, Baltimore, and Washington has been a pronounced success. The attendance was larger than at any previous Conference excepting the one at Fabyan's, which it very nearly equalled, numbering nearly 240, besides the Baltimore and Washington contingent, nearly every one being in actual library service, except the students in the library school at Albany.

Lakewood proved to be an admirable choice as a place of meeting, the Laurel House furnishing excellent accommodations and a nearly perfect hall for the meetings, with facilities for charming walks and drives between the sessions. It would be difficult to name a better place for our purposes.

While on the accessories of this Conference it may be well to pass on and speak of the delightful hospitalities extended in Baltimore and Washington. Justice requires that mention should be made of the failure on the part of the managers of the excursion to provide sufficient accommodation at the hotels in those cities, which was probably due to the unexpectedly large number (about 160) who went as far as Washington. But the local committees in both places did their work in a spirit of the most generous kindness and hospitality. In Baltimore Mr. Glenn with President Gilman, of Johns Hopkins University, and his whole corps of coadjutors were unstinted in their efforts to make our visit pleasant. A bounteous lunch was served at the University, to which we were told that four hundred local invitations were sent out. It was an open secret that the "400" accepted to a much larger extent than was expected, but the provision was more than abundant for all. The drive through Druid Hill Park, and the unexpected privilege of a view of the Walters art collections, where one sees Corots, Geromes, and Meissoniers almost *ad lib.*, made the afternoon a delight.

In Washington the party were well-nigh overwhelmed by the abundance of invitations to interesting places, and many acquired a new knowledge of the number and extent of the libraries of the capital city. The extra-bibliothecal enjoyments at Washington were a visit to the House in session (where in the midst of a wrangle over "sundry appropriations" our ears caught an allusion to a "steal" in connection with the new library building), a hand-shake with the President, a delightful evening reception by Mr. and Mrs. Cabell at the Norwood Institute, and a Sunday afternoon carriage-ride to that most interesting of all cemeteries—Arlington. Monday morning the post-Conference excursion started on its way from Washington.

To turn now to the business of the Conference, we notice first the opening address of the President, Mr. Fletcher, on Monday evening, of which we can give only the leading points.

The address was based on the motto of the association, "The best reading, for the largest number, at the least cost," with special reference to the last clause. The first department in which economy was urged was library building, where it was claimed that there should be a reasonable

ratio between the dollars in cost of a building and the volumes accommodated. That ratio was stated at not far from three or four volumes to a dollar, ample allowance being made for the convenient use of the books and also for all desirable architectural display. This ratio would of course not apply to the larger and more monumental structures.

The speaker then passed on to library administration, and made a plea for the reduction of the expenses of individual libraries through co-operation in cataloging and bibliographical work, referring especially to the scheme now being matured by the Library Bureau for the furnishing of printed catalog cards, financial support for the scheme being provided by the promised co-operation of the book trade. He also urged that a proper economy of the time of the librarian would result in his making it his personal duty to assist readers and students to the largest possible extent, throwing office work into the hands of assistants rather than doing that himself and leaving them to furnish to readers only such insufficient guidance as they can. The modern conception of a public library demands that the man or the woman who of all on the premises is best qualified to be guide, philosopher, and friend, shall be available to every reader.

The address was followed by the reports of the Secretary and the Treasurer, which latter led to considerable discussion, owing to the fact that it appeared to show the immediate danger of a deficit, unless decided measures were taken. At a later session, on the recommendation of a special committee, changes were made in the rules governing membership in the association. Annual fellowships at \$5, life fellowships for individuals, and permanent memberships for institutions, each at \$100, were established. Before the close of the meeting a considerable sum was put into the treasury by these means, and the danger of any deficit this year was averted.

The report of the trustees of the Endowment Fund showed something over \$8000 pledged, over \$5000 of it paid in. It was voted that all receipts from life and permanent fellowships or memberships should go to this fund.

Mr. Dunn, of Committee on Public Documents, reported in the absence of the chairman, Mr. Bowker. The latter appeared at the session in Washington, with a report as chairman of the committee, having been unavoidably detained before, and after some discussion arising from a desire on the part of some that certain amendments should be "pushed" by the association in any action it might take, a memorial was adopted urging upon Congress the passage of the "Manderson" bill, now pending in the House, providing for a reformed system of distributing and indexing the public documents.

The report of the Committee on the Columbian Exposition was brief and pointed, recommending the acceptance of the proposition made by the United States Bureau of Education to provide the necessary space and funds for the library exhibit. After some discussion of details, it was voted to accept the offer of the Bureau of Education, and to refer the whole matter of arrange-

ment to a new committee of five to be chosen by the Executive Board.

Dr. Poole made an interesting statement of the plans for a World's Congress of Librarians next year at Chicago, and stated that it would be held in a special building to be erected for the accommodation of the various congresses to be held in connection with the fair. The second week in July has been named as the most convenient season for the meeting, and the Executive Board were empowered to make arrangements for the meeting of the association to be held in conjunction with the World's Congress.

Tuesday evening Rev. Dr. Wm. Hayes Ward delivered an eloquent and appreciative address on the late Dr. L. H. Steiner, librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library. Nearly all of Wednesday was occupied with the discussion of the revision of the constitution, resulting in the adoption of the new draft as presented by the committee with slight changes. Most of the recommendations of the committee were accepted with practical unanimity, but there was nearly an even division on the question of direct or indirect election of the association's officers. As finally adopted, the new constitution follows the old in providing for their indirect election. It provides also for a council consisting of twenty members to be a real advisory board, and not an honorary one as heretofore.

Wednesday evening was devoted to the annual banquet and social gathering. At the banquet Mr. Soule presided with his usual success, and the speeches by several members were remarkable for their brevity and wit. A committee headed by Mrs. Crunden prepared quite a program of charades, music, etc., which was much curtailed by the shortness of the time left for its production.

On Thursday Mr. George Iles presented a thoughtful paper on the "Evaluation of new publications," containing a proposal for a system of impartial book reviews for the benefit of libraries and the public as well. This was referred to a special committee, who were instructed to report to the Publishing section.

There were satisfactory meetings on Tuesday of the College and Trustees sections, and on Thursday the women met by themselves and took steps for the organization of a Woman's section, Miss M. S. Cutler presenting a paper on the subject of the salaries paid to women.

In the Publishing section only routine business was done, the old board of officers being re-elected. There was some discussion, however, of several proposed schemes for much enlarged work for the section, and the feeling was general that along the lines indicated by Mr. Iles' paper, and those on which the Library Bureau is elaborating its plans for printed catalog cards, there would soon be opened an opportunity for co-operative work on a scale far beyond what has yet been attempted.

The report of the Co-operation Committee, through the chairman, Mr. Jones, of Salem, was a very interesting account of various new methods and devices, several of them from the Boston Public Library. Among these items the most

interesting referred to the matter of binding, and quite to the surprise of most librarians it was stated that the Boston Library no longer employs leather for rebinding books in the Bates Hall (reference library), cloth of various kinds being found decidedly preferable. It was also reported that the Boston Library is adopting a new method of arranging the card catalog, the new drawers being arranged in tiers from near the floor to as high as can easily be reached—a great saving of space being thus effected. Of course, the drawers, which are small with strong handles, are taken from their places to be consulted, tables and chairs being at hand for the purpose.

In Baltimore on Friday there was a business session in the Peabody Institute at 9:20 a.m., library architecture being the subject of discussion. Mr. Soule opened by stating a few points additional to those he has already published, as points of agreement between librarians and architects. Dr. Poole exhibited photographs of the Newberry Library building, and explained its advantages in a very satisfactory manner. Some discussion arose as to Mr. Soule's dictum that a library building should be independent of accessories, such as museums, art galleries, etc. That is, that all such accessory departments greatly increase the difficulty of providing the library with the proper light, ventilation, and conveniences.

The remaining business session was the one held in Washington Saturday morning in the hall of Columbian University, when the action already referred to with regard to public documents was completed, and the list of officers elected for the ensuing year was announced as follows: President, Melvil Dewey; Vice-Presidents, Messrs. Winsor, Poole (declined), Cutter, Crunden, Green, and Fletcher; Secretary, F. P. Hill; Treasurer, H. J. Carr; Recorder, H. M. Utley, and the usual committees. The following were also chosen as the ten councillors, who are to choose ten others to complete the board: Messrs. Poole, Dewey, Winsor, Cutter, Fletcher, Crunden, Larned, and Green, Miss James, Miss Coe.

Allusion should be made to the excellent opportunity afforded the party on Sunday afternoon to inspect the new Congressional Library building. The interior portion is now mostly up, the outer walls also well under way. The framework of the two great iron stacks, nine stories high and with a total capacity of 1,600,000 volumes, is also in place, and a temporary plank flooring at a level with the floor of the great reading-room (which is about midway of the height of the stacks) gave access to the whole interior. Two wooden models of the steel shelves, made of narrow parallel bars which are to fill the stacks, were in place with books on them, and an opportunity was thus given to see just what the plans contemplate. The general opinion seemed to be that the stacks are the best ever erected, and that the whole building will be quite worthy of its distinguished purpose.

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